

AUGUST 2017

AMISH COUNTRY NEWS

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AMISH COUNTRY LANDMARK

Travelers have been traversing Lancaster County along Route 30 for well over two centuries. And for over 70 years, a very special building has signaled their arrival in Amish Country. It has a legitimate claim on being the area's oldest visitor landmark. Most importantly, it's the "place that made shoo-fly pie famous." That iconic structure is the **Dutch Haven** windmill.

With a history dating back to the beginnings of tourism here, the building is rich in memories. From the time it started as a luncheonette in 1920 right up to the present, it has remained most famous for shoo-fly pie, served warm with whipped cream. The Dutch Haven shoo-fly pie has even been mentioned in a TIME magazine article.

Today, as soon as you walk in, you'll be offered a free sample of that same delicious, gooey pie. Some 40,000 pies are baked annually, using

the original (secret) recipe. Visitors are still encouraged to "Take one for yourself or send one to someone nice." You can buy and ship pies home at the store or at their "online shop," where you'll find other local crafts as well.

Yes, Dutch Haven is much more than pies, with over 10,000 unique gift items, foods, and

collectibles. Some of the most popular are jams, jellies, and canned goods, noodles, Amish pine furniture and cedar chests, hex signs, quilted spice mats, Amish straw hats, jewelry and gemstones, Dutch Delft tiles, Amish dolls, onyx and soapstone animals, trivets, metal stars, Tiffany lamps, Amish romance novels, framed prints, plenty of T-shirts and postcards, and a tremendous selection of Amish-made outdoor furniture. It's an eclectic mix, to say the least.

As you explore, you'll discover lots of other "surprises" around every corner. Expect the unexpected! And don't forget the Amish-style root beer in the barrel.

Remember, Dutch Haven is open every day of the week, right into the evening. Look forward to your free sample when you walk in under the welcoming arms of the windmill... for this truly is the place that made shoo-fly pie famous.



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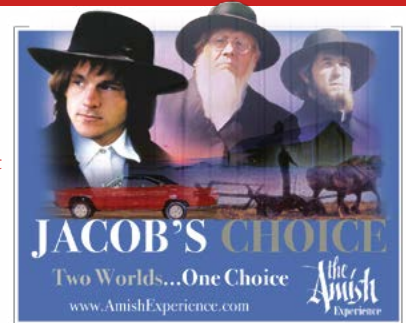
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Jessica and her sisters.

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www.amishbuggyrides.com

RIDES & PRICES



The Cookie Run

Adults \$10 Children \$6

A 20 to 25 minute ride through Amish farms with a brief stop at a farm stand. Your opportunity to purchase home-made cookies, root beer, pretzels and lemonade. Get a taste of real Amish life. Available Monday thru Saturday (see *The Sunday Ride* below).

Amish Town Tour Adults \$15 Children \$8

A 30 to 35 minute tour passing an Amish village, businesses and an all Amish farm area. Experience real Amish life. Available Monday thru Saturday (see *The Sunday Ride* below).

Amish Farm Tour Adults \$22 Children \$12

A 50 to 60 minute, Customer Preferred Ride. Visit a real Amish Farm, tour the barn, see the cows and big draft horses. America the way it used to be. Available Monday thru Saturday (see *The Sunday Ride* below).

The Sunday Ride Adults \$16 Children \$8

This 30 to 35 minute tour is the only ride available on Sundays. The Sunday Ride is a lovely tour through an all Amish area. There are no stops on this ride due to the Amish's observance of the Sabbath.

Amish Journey Private Rides

Longer tours in your own Amish buggy. Tours vary from one hour 20 minutes to almost two hours. Tour miles of Amish farmland on a visit to an Amish store, pass a water powered flour mill still in operation for local Amish folks. See the animals at the Farm Store and shop for fresh baked goods and local crafts. Reservations recommended. Please ask for pricing. Available Monday thru Saturday.

Email Us For Details: amishbuggyrides@gmail.com

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Weekdays and Saturdays – 9 AM to 6:30 PM
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Children Rate 12 yrs. and Under
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WILKUM TO OUR WORLD

"Ride back in time, before the car or plane was ever imagined..."

Special to AMISH COUNTRY NEWS



Ride Like the Amish Do!

Aaron and Jessica will be happy to take you. Jessica? Well, she's the little girl who started it all. Her dad agreed to let her try her hand at giving buggy rides. She liked driving horses, and thought it would be fun to show the beautiful scenery and Amish farms to visitors. Aaron? You're probably thinking that must be Jessica's father. Nope. You just can't have a buggy ride without a horse. That's right, Aaron was Jessica's horse. And that's how Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides was born.

When they were little girls, Jessica and her sisters (pictured on cover) were all taught how to drive buggies from a young age, and learned how to take care of horses from their dad.

Ride Through the Covered Bridge

All of the buggy rides pass through a covered bridge. As Jessica always says, "We know you came here more than anything to see and understand how and why we live the way we do."

Aaron and Jessica's welcomes you, rain or shine, 7 days a week.

SUMMER HOURS

Monday to Saturday 9 AM-6:30 PM
Sunday 10 AM-4 PM

For more info about us, go to
amishbuggyrides.com

For more info about Private Rides for you, your family, or your group, email amishbuggyrides@gmail.com or call 717.723.0478.

Take a ride with us. Let us tell you all about it, too. After all, we live here."

"You don't have to pass one piece of ground that isn't farmed with a horse when you take a ride with us!" —Jessica's Dad

The buggy rides depart from the covered bridge of Plain & Fancy Farm. You'll see a little red covered bridge along the side of Route 340, exactly a mile and a half from either Bird-in-Hand or Intercourse. Completely surrounded by Amish farmland, there are at least several different routes offered with different sights, stops, lengths, and prices. No reservations are needed. Just pick your ride when you arrive.



Family Tradition That Never Disappoints

Jessica likes to stress the non-commercial nature of the rides. "We can take you between the house and the barn on a real Amish farm, on private roads, with no cars. You see real Amish life. We absolutely offer you more!"

Recently there have been other carriage rides opened by folks seeking to take advantage of the tourist trade in Amish Country. We offer a high quality tour with local guides. We realize you have a choice of rides and we appreciate your business!

Most of the drivers are our neighbors and are all Amish. Jessica's dad, who has driven thousands of visitors down Amish farm lanes over the last 30 years, was three years old when he had his first recollection of a horse. He guesses

he has driven a carriage more than anyone else in Lancaster County, about 10,000 miles a year!

Enjoy the beautiful countryside of Lancaster County with its immaculately kept Amish farms and gardens. Experience for yourself a taste of Amish Country life here.

All the rides are reasonably priced, starting at just \$10.00 for adults and \$6.00 for kids.

Many visitors love our special PRIVATE RIDES! It is the ultimate thing to do in Amish Country and will be the highlight of your visit! You can reserve a real Amish buggy and take a personal tour through the countryside getting all your questions personally answered by your Amish driver. You can visit an Amish farm, pass a waterpowered historic mill and stop at an Amish roadside stand for snacks. We customize it for you. We have had surprise engagements on our buggies, and small family reunions. Prices vary by length of ride. You are welcome to call 717.723.0478 or email us for more info. Private rides are available Monday through Friday, and Saturday mornings.

Kids love buggy rides, especially getting to sit up front next to the drivers! As one visitor from Long Island said, "This is our fifth time here this year. We love it here. Since my son woke up this morning Aaron & Jessica's is all I've heard" So, if your kids are driving you buggy, let Aaron & Jessica take over the reins for a while! Look for the little covered bridge along Route 340 at Plain & Fancy Farm, midway between Intercourse and Bird-in-Hand. 

Open All Year **See Our World** Rain or Shine
FROM A BUGGY



PRIVATE AMISH ROAD REAL FAMILY CARRIAGES

We take you to VISIT REAL AMISH FARMS.
You'll experience REAL AMISH LIFE!



Hospice & Community Care's Labor Day Auction

Special to AMISH COUNTRY NEWS

The Solanco Fairgrounds are your place to be over Labor Day Weekend! Hospice & Community Care's Labor Day Auction is taking place on September 2 and 4 with new and expanded specialty auctions, brand new homemade Amish food and old favorites from the past three decades of Auction history. When you arrive at the Solanco Fairgrounds on Saturday and Monday, you'll hear Lancaster County auctioneers prepping items for the auction block and the Amish community selling famous breakfast logs, pies, omelets and all the Dutch Country favorites you can imagine. Last year the Auction was held for the first time at the Solanco Fairgrounds, and was met with an increase in attendance and enthusiasm. So this year some schedule updates were made to accommodate the growing festivities and make this a true two-day event. New for this year, the Art Auction

sponsored by NITRO Cutting Services/Herr & Sacco will be held Saturday at 1:00 p.m. and features "Remembering Nickel Mines" by local artist Glenn Blue. The Sports Auction, sponsored by Blue Ridge Communications, with guest auctioneer and Sports Talk host, Eric May is always a highlight, with a possible appearance by the Phillie Phanatic. Anyone looking for handmade quilts won't have to look any farther than Monday at 10:00 a.m. at the Quilt Auction sponsored by Rodgers & Associates. A plant auction is happening both days for all the green thumbs, and a dedicated furniture auction will take place on Monday. Vacations, fine furniture and jewelry, outdoor furniture, and used cars will all be up for bid. The Labor Day Auction Raffle

sponsored by Family Owned Markets is back again this year with a chance to win a 2017 Ford Mustang and cash prizes of \$2,000 or \$1,000. Tickets can be purchased online, at various community events or at the Auction. Auction-goers have an opportunity to contribute \$182 to provide a day of care and support for a patient at the Day of Care Auction sponsored by Engle Printing & Publishing. And of course there will be cakes, and toys and bowls oh my! Visit www.LaborDayAuction.org for a map to the fairgrounds and download the Labor Day Auction app for up-to-date listings and information. You can also enter 101 Park Ave. Quarryville, PA into your GPS or Smartphone and you will be navigated directly to the entrance. 

Sept. 2 & 4, 7:30 a.m., Solanco Fairgrounds, 101 Park Ave., Quarryville, PA

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Amish Made Furniture...Find It at Jake's Country Trading Post

By Clinton Martin

Jake's Country Trading Post is not just a mercantile selling authentic Amish-made goods and lots more. But, to be sure, Jake's does have numerous home accents made by local Amish craftsmen. The poly outdoor furniture is one of the most popular items at Jake's.

Amish workshops have long been building wooden furniture, crafts, and cabinetry. But natural wood can be really challenging in some respects, prone to weathering, splintering, rotting, etc. When lumber alternatives hit the market a few years ago, the Amish were quick to incorporate this fully recycled and recyclable sustainable material into their workmanship.

The Country Sunset Series at Jake's offers a wide range of colors and styles in outdoor poly furniture, from Adirondack chairs, to rockers, to gliders, and even matching accessories like footstools and cup holders. Three of the colors are imbued with a natural woodgrain look, including on the edges, so that the chair, while 100% recycled plastic, is easily mistaken for real mahogany, birch, or distressed driftwood.

Jake's always has an expansive selection in stock (ready for you to try out), but dozens of colors and styles are available as a special order beyond what's on site. See the entire line at Route 30 East, 2954 Lincoln Highway East, Gordonville. Call 717.687.8980 for hours and directions. Or, visit www.jakeshomeaccents.com. 

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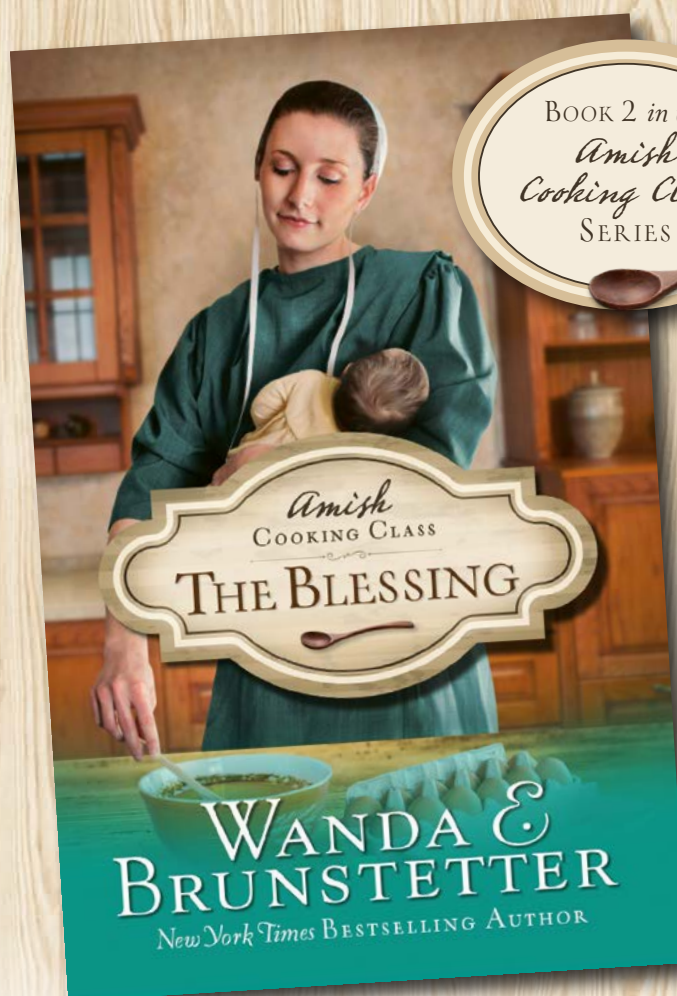


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SERIES

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The desire to learn about basic Amish cooking lures six new men and women to Heidi Troyer's kitchen. During each class, Heidi teaches culinary skills, but it is her words of wisdom that have a profound effect on her students—though, this time Heidi's own hurting heart will need some healing nourishment.

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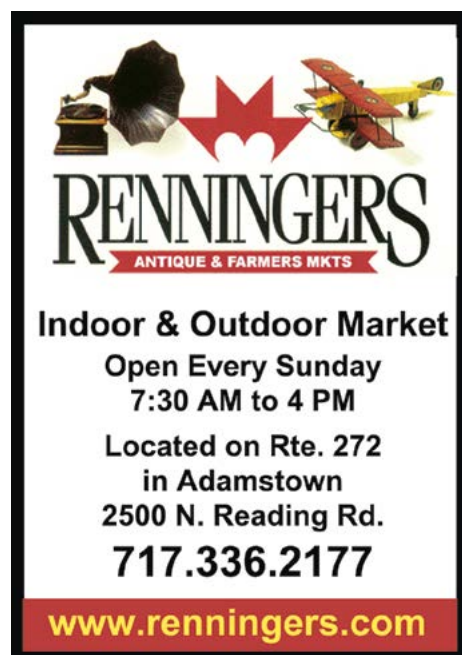
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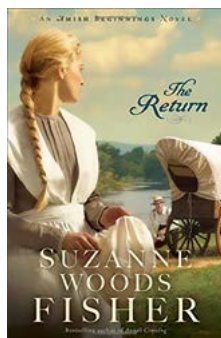
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Must-Read Historical Amish Fiction

By Clinton Martin

Despite the proliferation of Amish fiction, a few select names represent the heart of the genre. Suzanne Woods Fisher is definitely one of these must-read authors. Her latest novel, *THE RETURN*, is inspired by actual historical events. It gives a glimpse into the tumultuous days of pre-revolutionary Amish Country, a time when the Plain

folk were pressured by many outside influences. This look at the time period is captured through two young, determined, and faith-filled Amish women. As publisher Revell Books describes them:

Beautiful and winsome, Betsy Zook never questioned her family's rigid expectations, nor those of devoted Hans, but then she never had to... Not until the night when she's taken captive in a surprise Indian raid. During her captivity, Betsy faces brutality and hardship, but also unexpected kindness. She draws strength from native Caleb, who encourages her to find God in all circumstances. She finds herself torn between her

pious upbringing and the intense new feelings this compelling man awakens within her.

Handsome and complex, Hans is greatly anguished by Betsy's captivity and turns to Tessa Bauer for comfort. Eagerly, Tessa responds, overlooking troubling signs of Hans's hunger for revenge. When Betsy is finally restored to the Amish, have things gone too far between Hans and Tessa?

Suzanne Woods Fisher's work is available online, but why not stop by a local Amish shop, Gordonville Books? Call 717-768.3512 or point your GPS to 275 Old Leacock Rd., Gordonville PA. 



Riehl's Quilts & Crafts displays magnificent quilts in colorful displays. You'll discover many sizes and styles available to see and touch.

Quilts and Crafts at the Picturesque Riehl Family Farm

By Clinton Martin

The Riehl Family Farm is a productive little corner of Lancaster County soil. Three generations labor to keep the farm business strong. On one hand, this is a quaint dairy farm. The herd, which is always well under 100 cows, is carefully tended, and the milk collected is sold to a larger co-op. This is a treasured vocation among the Amish, as the values and work ethic inherent to farming fit perfectly with their beliefs.

However, the fluctuating income from the milk business doesn't always provide a reliable way to pay the bills. The Riehl family therefore decided to open a shop on the farmstead, selling their own hand-made quilts and crafts. Years ago, the storefront was literally in the family's farmhouse, where grandma sewed and sold what she could to help subsidize the family business. Over the years, the quilt and craft business grew, with word-of-mouth bringing new customers, and the one-of-a-kind shopping experience returning repeat visitors.

Today, a stand-alone building, itself a locally hand-made example of Amish workmanship, stands between the farmhouse and the dairy barn. The mortise and tendon beams

overhead hearken back to a time gone by, and the ceiling fans hiss away as the compressed air motor pumps them into motion through "Amish electricity."

But, a visit to the Riehl's shop isn't recommended solely for the uniqueness of the setting. The merchandise beckons with a variety seldom seen in any retail chain. Hundreds of hands have spent thousands of hours to piece together, one at a time, the amazingly beautiful quilts on display. Far more than just blankets – they become treasured household pieces. They decorate, they warm, and eventually become heirlooms handed down through generations.

In addition to the quilts, the Riehl's also have on display a great variety of craft items. Lovely potholders, pillows, "quillows," and countless primitive home decorations are all laid out to delight shoppers of many tastes and budgets.

And so, the storefront has grown to support many other families besides the Riehls. Hundreds of Amish neighbors and friends put their talents to work, assuring that the shop never has empty shelves, enabling them to earn a living, too.

Whatever your reason for visiting the Riehl family farm, be prepared to experience a slice of Amish life while you browse the epitome of Amish Country goods. Call 717.656.0697. GPS 247 E. Eby Rd., Leola PA. www.RiehlsQuiltsAndCrafts.com 



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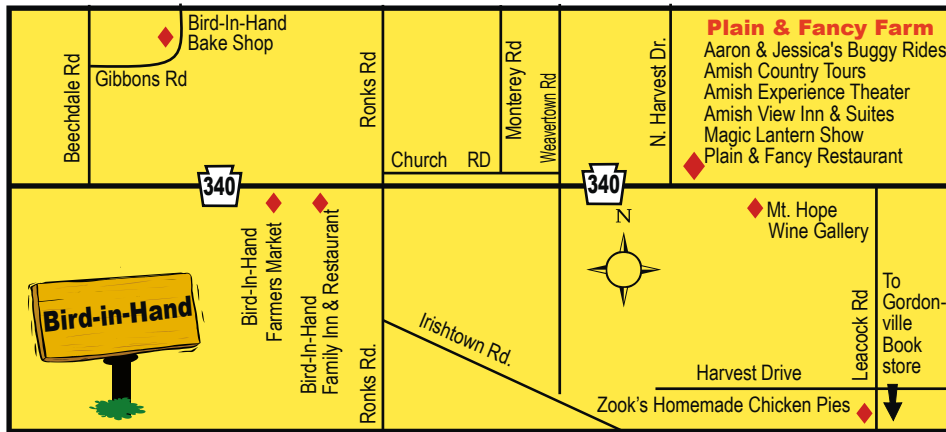
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Welcome to the Village of Bird-in-Hand



Of the many unique village names that dot the Amish Country map, one of the more interesting is Bird-in-Hand. William Penn, an English Quaker, had founded the colony of Penn's Woods, and settlers began arriving from Europe in the early 1700's, moving westward from Philadelphia. The trip by stagecoach, or Conestoga wagon with freight and merchandise, lasted several days. Inns were built every few miles, identified with signs held by an iron pole or attached to the side of the building. The reason for the signs was so that they could be

understood by all nationalities. Further, since many teamsters or wagoners were poorly educated they could not read. Given orders to stop at a certain inn, they were able to do so by recognizing the artwork on the signboard.

The legend of the naming of Bird-in-Hand dates to the time when the Old Philadelphia Pike was being laid out. By 1734, surveyors at McNabb's Hotel were discussing whether they should stay at their present location or return to Lancaster to spend the night. One of them said, "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." The

sign in front of the inn, which became known as the Bird-in-Hand Inn, is known to have once "portrayed a man with a bird in his hand and a bush nearby, in which two birds were perched."

Variations of this sign appear throughout the town today. McNabb's Hotel was destroyed by fire in 1851. By the following year, a three-story hotel was built to replace it. More recently, it was Bitzer's Hotel before becoming the present Village Inn of Bird-in-Hand, a beautiful bed and breakfast property. The Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County states that the existing brick building "may be one of the few 19th century inns in the context of a small town in Lancaster County, which survives with a high degree of architectural integrity." It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. When referring to their bird in hand symbol, some residents say that the bird nestled in the human hand indicates friendship, comfort, and hospitality, all of which you'll discover in this perfectly delightful little village of shops, farmers markets and eateries. 

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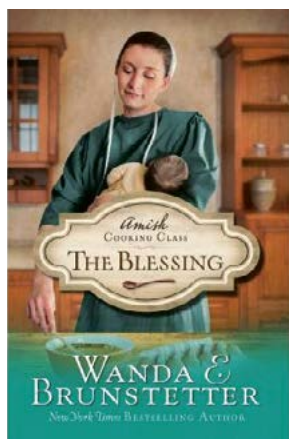


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Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant & Stage



An Intriguing Read: Wanda Brunstetter's *The Blessing*

By Clinton Martin

The Blessing is Book Two in the Amish Cooking Class series by Wanda Brunstetter

Book Two in the "Amish Cooking Class" series, this novel takes readers into the true-to-life, fictitious story of Heidi Troyer, an Amish woman who teaches cooking classes to groups of all-walks-of-life "Englishers" (the Amish nickname for non-Amish people.)

Not only does the reader learn about the Amish way of life through Heidi's development as a character, but the class members provide interesting plot elements as well. And of course,

the story is all wrapped around the cooking prowess of the Amish, including little tips and hints, such as how to remove the smell of onions from fingers after slicing.

Pick up a copy of this fun book, available at Gordonville Bookstore 717.768.3512 and other outlets, and enjoy a step into the world of Heidi Troyer. You'll experience heartache, healing, cooking, teaching, and a dose or two of Amish wisdom in *The Blessing*. 

In Amish Country many visitors see and hear about how the Amish "cook from scratch." There are stories of visitors walking into local gift shops asking for a pound of "scratch" so they can cook like the Amish do!

"Cooking from scratch" is simply a phrase that means cooking from the most rudimentary ingredients. Instead of opening a box of Bisquick, you start with flour, baking soda, salt, yeast, etc. Is that the secret to why Amish foods taste so good? A simple start and lack of any additives and synthetics?

Maybe, but I wouldn't be the one to ask. That's a question better answered by a fun read through author Wanda Brunstetter's newest book, *The Blessing*.



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Belt It Out! Amish Craftsmanship On Display at Forest Hill Leather

By Clinton Martin

Many Amish families are involved in artistry beyond the farm fields, either as sideline income or as a stand-alone vocation. Leather craft is a treasured form of handiwork among these artisans, and the Stoltzfus family of Forest Hill Leather Craft has become one of the most skilled to work with the sometimes unforgiving raw material of natural leather.

Forest Hill uses only the finest US leather hides, real 100% pure leather of unmatched

quality. Many of us know that the leather belts you might find at big box stores are likely lesser-quality strips of hide bonded together with adhesives, or synthetic knockoffs altogether. These mass produced pieces are hardly durable, and soon stretch, separate, split, or crack. The belts, wallets, purses, bags, and accessories at Forest Hill Leather are made with lifelong quality hand-crafting worked right into each piece.

The entire family is involved in one way or another, but Ike, patriarch and founder of the business, oversees all aspects of production. He



Don't be surprised if you are greeted by the family horse as you drive into Forest Hill Leather Craft.

Zook's

Homemade Chicken Pies



Pick up a few!

- Chicken Pies
- Beef Pies
- Sausage Pies
- Apple Dumplings Too!



Route 340

Harvest Drive

★

Old Leacock Rd.



Phone Orders
717.768.0239
 3194 Harvest Dr.
 Ronks, PA 17572

worked for a local harness shop, creating, repairing, and restoring leather harnesses, saddles, and other horse-related accessories for 14 years before stepping out on his own, with the decidedly more broad-based Forest Hill Leather Craft.

Visiting this store is so much more than just walking through doors into a retail area. In addition to the beautiful drive through the countryside, Ike's shop is located right on the farm. So you pull into the driveway next to the horse pasture and park in front of the barn, which houses both his leather showroom on one side, and his horse stable on the other. And you are actually welcome to go upstairs to see the production area.

Call ahead to inquire about visiting this Amish store. Get business hours and directions (225 Forest Hill Road, Bird-in-Hand) by calling 717.656.8758. You're sure to find one or more items that catch your eye and I'm quite sure that you'll be treasuring your Amish handmade leather item for years to come. 🐾

Old Fashioned Goodness

- Fresh Bread
- Dinner Rolls
- Cinnamon Buns
- Whoopie Pies
- Fruit Pies
- And More!

Petting Zoo, Gourmet Ice Cream, and Picnic Area for your Enjoyment!





Bird-in-Hand
Bake Shop

Calvin & Janell Groff and Family
 542 Gibbons Road, Bird-in-Hand PA
 717-656-7947 • www.bihbakeshop.com

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 Cottages & Camping

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***Guest Rooms**
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www.floryscamping.com

99 N. Ronks Rd.
 PO Box 308
 Ronks PA 17572
 Between US 30 & Rte. 340



Good Sam

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Hand Made is Our Heritage...



...Where All We Make is The "Riehl" Deal

Our quilt shop features over 200 handmade quilts in stock, plus quilrows, pillows, potholders, handbags, wall hangings and more!

Something Special is Growing At Sam & Susie Riehl's Farm:

100 local family craft businesses. All in one shop! From baskets to brooms, from bird feeders to bed quilts.

Your choice is as locally made as the corn in our fields!

So Come Down the Lane - We'd Love to Meet You!

Come Visit Us: Monday - Saturday 8am-5pm, Evenings by Chance or Appointment, Closed Sundays

247 East Eby Rd, Leola PA 17540

From Rt. 340 Take Rt. 772 West. Turn right onto Stumptown Rd., then right on Eby Rd.

We are the first farm on the left - look for our sign!

Call for Catalog or Information: (please no Sunday calls) 800.957.7105 or 717.656.0697 • RiehlsQuiltsAndCrafts.com



View our Catalog



Tour our Shop on your smartphone or tablet



Country Inn of Lancaster A Peaceful Respite

By Clinton Martin

How many days did you work last year? Wait, don't even think about it. It's too depressing. How many days of vacation did you have? Now that's something you probably know right off the top of your head, and it puts a smile on your face when you recall the number. Vacation time is precious.

The time you've got in Amish Country right now is but a brief diversion from the 9-5 back home. Make the most of it. Of course, you want to be in among all the action... the Amish touring attractions, restaurants, shops, theaters, outlets, etc. But, you don't want to go to bed to the sound of horns and sirens.

The Country Inn of Lancaster offers the best of both worlds. Located conveniently on Route 30 (2133 Lincoln Highway East), the main thoroughfare through Lancaster County, it is close



to everything. But, it's back off the road just far enough that your room is peaceful and restful, even though the busy world is right outside.

The Country Inn of Lancaster is a local family-owned independent hotel, with hospitality "to the T." New quilts on the beds, clean country décor, an award-winning housekeeping staff who've been honored for many years of service, warm buttery popcorn in the lobby day and night, and a delicious breakfast – it's all part of the experience at Country Inn. The wrap-around porch with locally handmade Amish rocking chairs is just a bonus.

Swim in the pool, or grab a delicious meal at the full-service restaurant on site (they are

famous for their absolutely amazing Stromboli), and make the most of that precious vacation time. The Country Inn of Lancaster is affordable (call for rates, 717.393.3413), and Sunday nights are half-price with the coupon in this magazine. 

R/C Sailboat Rentals
Reservation Required
717.768.4653



Waters Edge MINI GOLF & Ice Cream
Located at Waters Edge Mini Golf
230 N. Ronks Rd. Bird-in-Hand

Waters Edge MINI GOLF & Ice Cream



Fun for Everyone!
Two Beautiful Golf Courses • Petting Zoo
Fish and Duck Pond • Hand Dipped Ice Cream
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230 N. Ronks Road
Bird-in-Hand, PA
(Located behind Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant)

TURKEY HILL
Visit Our Ice Cream Parlor!

\$2.00 OFF
One Round of Mini-Golf

Not valid with any other discounts or offers! acn

Waters Edge MINI GOLF & Ice Cream
Expires October 16, 2017

Dutchland Quilt Patch



LOCALLY MADE

- Quilts
- Fabric & Patterns
- Primitive Country Decor & Lighting and much more!



2 LOCATIONS
Village of Dutch Delights
Rt. 30, 1/4 Mile East of Miller's Smorgasbord
717.687.0534

Intercourse Store (No Fabric)
Look for the green sign on Rt. 340!
3453 Old Philadelphia Pike
717.768.3981

Mon-Thur 9-6 • Fri 9-8 • Sat 9-7 Closed Sun.
Shop On-Line at www.dutchlandquilts.com

Groffs on Gibbons: Your Definitive Baked Goods Destination

By Clinton Martin



The Groff family, seven souls strong, are essentially the first-family of Amish Country baking, operating the deservedly renowned Bird-in-Hand Bake Shop (off the beaten path, but well worth the drive, out in the country at 542 Gibbons Road.)

This shop, in business since 1972, has changed hands a few times, but each generation of family leadership has kept true to the founding principles of delicious, homemade shoo fly pie, yummy, gooey sticky buns, artisan breads, and creamy hand-dipped ice cream.

The Bird-in-Hand Bake Shop also offers a well-stocked gift shop, an outdoor play area, picnicking, farm animals, plenty of free parking, and nice, clean rest rooms. It's an Amish Country rest stop perfect for a lazy summer day. See www.bihbakehop.com or call 717.656.7947 for more details.

Countryside Road-Stand
Home - Made

- Annie's Kitchen Canned Goods
- Baked Goods
- Root Beer
- Noodles
- Candy
- Soft Pretzels
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- All Kinds of Locally Made Crafts and Quilts
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Eli B. & Annie Stoltzfus
2966 Stumptown Rd. Ronks, PA 17572
Open 8 to 6 • Store 717.656.4474
VM 717.656.9206 • Fax 717.656.9795



The Good 'n Plenty Experience

Stop in at Good 'n Plenty today to enjoy our traditional Lancaster County home cooking and you'll see why we've been chosen as one of AAA's Top 10 BEST "down-home dining" restaurants in North America. Staffed with local cooks who have devoted years to preparing outstanding food, Good 'n Plenty is like no other restaurant in the heart of the Pennsylvania Dutch area.

Three Delicious Ways To Dine

Family Style Dining Our traditional all you can eat family style dining is our most popular dining option with all the food brought to the table by our experienced and friendly servers.

Menu Dining Our menu dining area is perfect for guests with a smaller appetite who would like to dine at individual tables. In addition to all the Pennsylvania Dutch favorites, our menu dining features fresh made soups, garden fresh salads and made to order sandwiches.



Takeout Want all the delicious food but no time to sit down? The Good 'n Plenty takeout program is ideal for people on the go.



Please visit goodnplenty.com for current serving hours and valuable coupons

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Lancaster County, PA 17576
(717) 394-7111



Experience the World of the Amish!

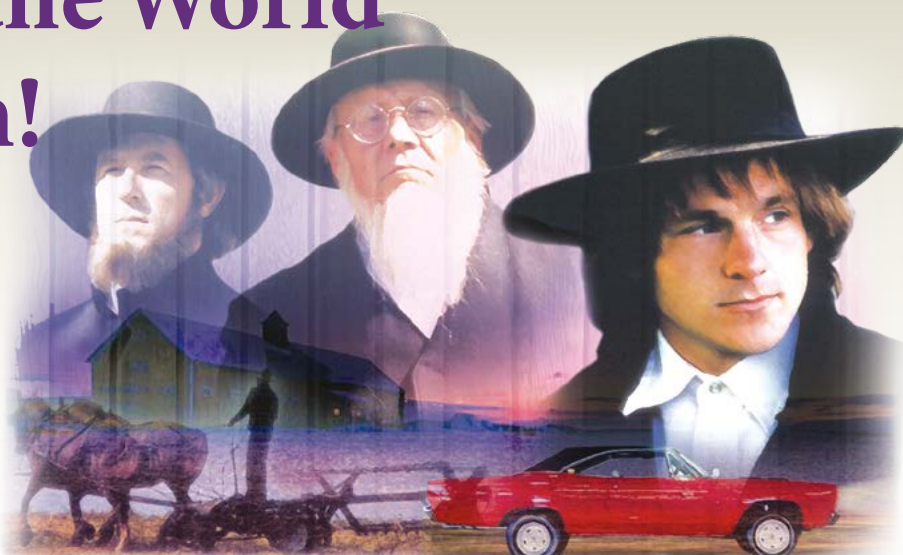
WITNESS the spectacular "Jacob's Choice" told with Disney-like Special Effects in the Amish Experience Theater.



EXPLORE the Amish Country Homestead, the region's only Officially Designated Heritage Site Amish home.



TOUR the magnificent and rarely seen Amish Farmlands with a certified tour guide in complete comfort onboard one of our 14 passenger busses.



SIT in a desk at the Fisher Amish schoolroom furnished authentically with desks and more from an actual Amish classroom.



SAVE with our Super Saver package which includes "Jacob's Choice," the Amish Country Homestead and a 90-minute Amish Farmlands Tour.

RECEIVE a free Amish cookbook autographed by the author herself with the SuperSaver Package.



SATISFY yourself that you're making the most from your Amish Experience. Since 1959, the area's first, and still foremost, interpretative source of Amish Culture.

www.amishexperience.com

800.555.2303 Ext. 210

FREE AMISH BUGGY RIDE



Receive a voucher for a FREE "Cookie Run Buggy Ride" just a few steps away at Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides with a purchase, at the Amish Experience Theater Box Office or online, of a regularly priced SuperSaver Package. *One voucher for each adult or child ticket purchased with this coupon. Voucher not valid Saturdays July 1-Sept. 2 or with any other offer or with group tours. Offer expires 11/30/17. Valid up to six people. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase. BUGAN*

COMPLETELY SURROUNDED BY AMISH FARMS

Amish Farmlands Tour



Journey along back country roads, deep into the Amish Farmlands to discover sights rarely seen. Under the watchful eye of your certified guide, you'll gain insights into the "how" and "why" of an ever-changing culture, and see at-the-moment activities of the Amish. If you've seen the Amish portrayed on the various "Reality" TV shows, and you wonder what really is true and not true about the Amish, this is the tour you won't want to miss! We'll debunk myths about the Amish and provide accurate, respectful, and authentic information, just like we have done for over 50 years.

Duration: 1 ½ hours

7 days a week, 10 AM, 12 PM, 2 PM, 4 PM

Visit-in-Person Tour



Rare is the opportunity to meet with Amish families willing to share their traditions and beliefs with you. In a group whose size is never more than 14, this is the only Amish Tour to be designated an official "Heritage Tour" by the County of Lancaster. Visit an Amish farm at milking time, stop at a Cottage Industry, and finally enjoy a visit and chat with one of our Amish friends in their home.



Duration: 3 hours

Mon.-Sat.

Daytime Tours

July 1-Sept. 4

10:30 AM &

2:30 PM

Twilight Tour

Through Oct. at 5 PM

SuperSaver Package



THIS IS YOUR TOTAL AMISH EXPERIENCE!

The SuperSaver Package includes the Amish Farmlands Tour, the acclaimed "Jacob's Choice" at the Amish Experience F/x Theater, and a tour of the Amish House & One-Room School. As a bonus, receive an Amish cookbook and a voucher for a FREE BUGGY RIDE from Aaron & Jessica's on property. Buggy ride offer valid through November only. Voucher not valid Saturdays July 1-September 2.

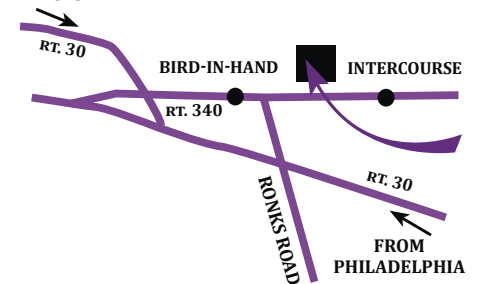
OPEN DAILY 7 DAYS

Theater: Shows on the hour.

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Guarantee Your Seat. Purchase your VIP Tour and SuperSaver Package Tickets online at www.amishexperience.com.

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**Route 340 Between
Bird-in-Hand & Intercourse**

3121 Old Philadelphia Pike, Ronks, PA

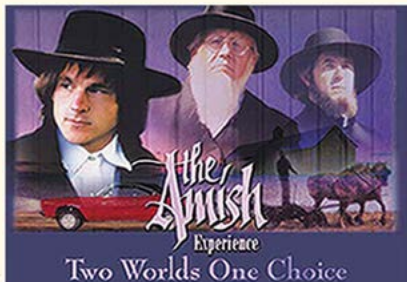
The Amish Experience

at Plain & Fancy Farm

PLAIN & FANCY

The only place where you can do it all...

Drive along the area's only AAA Scenic Cultural Byway, and when you're mid-way between Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse, you'll discover the ten pristine acres known as Plain & Fancy Farm, and home of the Amish Experience Theater, Country Homestead, Farmlands & VIP Tours, Buggy Rides, Shopping, Gardens, Farm Animals, Restaurant and Hotel.



Jacob's Choice at the Amish Experience Theater

Discover what it means to be Amish through magical story-telling as you become part of the emotional struggle of the Fisher family to preserve more than 400 years of Amish traditions. Five viewing screens, a unique barnyard setting, and special effects create a one-of-a-kind experience.

Amish Farmlands Tour

Journey down rarely traveled back country roads, deep into the farmlands, to discover the sights sought after by visitors. Gain insights into the hows and whys of an ever-changing culture from certified guides in 14-passenger mini-shuttles. Stops may include a roadside stand, quilt shop, country store or craft shop on an Amish farm.



Amish Country Homestead & Schoolroom

Visit the only officially designated "Heritage Site" Amish house. As you walk through the nine rooms with your guide, unravel the riddle of Amish clothing, life without electricity, and eight-grades-in-a-room education as you sit at authentic Amish school desks.

Magic Lantern Show

Go back in time! Not a magic show, but a magical entertainment experience before there were movies. An authentic 1890's lantern projects stunning images, accompanied by a live performer, music and Victorian "special effects." It's the only permanent magic lantern theater in the world.



Visit-in-Person Tour

This officially designated "Heritage Tour" is a rare opportunity to meet and talk to the Amish personally. On this exclusive tour you will go right into the barn on an Amish farm at milking time, visit with an Amish artisan at his workplace, and then enjoy a personal visit and conversation right in an Amish home. Limited to 14 guests.

Smokehouse BBQ and Brews

Please see right hand page.



Buggy Rides

Aaron & Jessica's drivers are happy to share life stories and answer questions.

The Country Store

Find books, videotapes, candles, toys and dolls, kitchen and home items, souvenirs, local handcrafts, Amish clothing, straw hats, bonnets, and last but not least...tasty treats.

10 ACRES OF FUN & FOOD

Get the whole story at www.10acres.com



AmishView Inn & Suites

Tripadvisor's #1 Lancaster Hotel

The indoor pool, hot tub, fitness center, whirlpools and fireplaces make AmishView perfect for an intimate getaway or family vacation.

Adults Only meets Kid Friendly.

The Family-friendly building includes a wide array of beautiful, award-winning rooms, suites and amenities that will satisfy the requirements of any family.

The Adults-only building features elegant, Grand King rooms, fulfilling the needs of adults seeking an elegant escape.

Lancaster's best complimentary hot breakfast buffet. Made-to-order omelets, eggs, pancakes and Belgian waffles, with endless helpings of bacon, sausage, country potatoes and much more.

Other complimentary features.

Every room or suite includes a kitchen or kitchenette with refrigerator, microwave, sink and coffee maker, Lenox and Quoizel lighting, Serta Presidential Suite beds, wi-fi, DVD players, lighted make-up mirrors, iron and ironing board, hair dryers and the Tarocco line of shampoos and soaps. Get the whole story at: www.AmishViewInn.com • 800.373.2387



Plain & Fancy Farm

3121 Old Philadelphia Pike (Rt 340)
Bird-in-Hand PA GPS issue: try Ronks PA

www.PlainAndFancyFarm.com

www.AmishViewInn.com

www.AmishExperience.com

www.SmokehouseBBQandBrews.com



Smokehouse BBQ and Brews

A fun new dining experience in the heart of Lancaster County at Plain & Fancy Farm, offering authentic BBQ, American Fare, house made sauces, sides and salads, and locally hand crafted brews, spirits and wines.

The menu also includes an array of Lancaster County Favorites, including Amish Country's Original Build Your Own Feast!

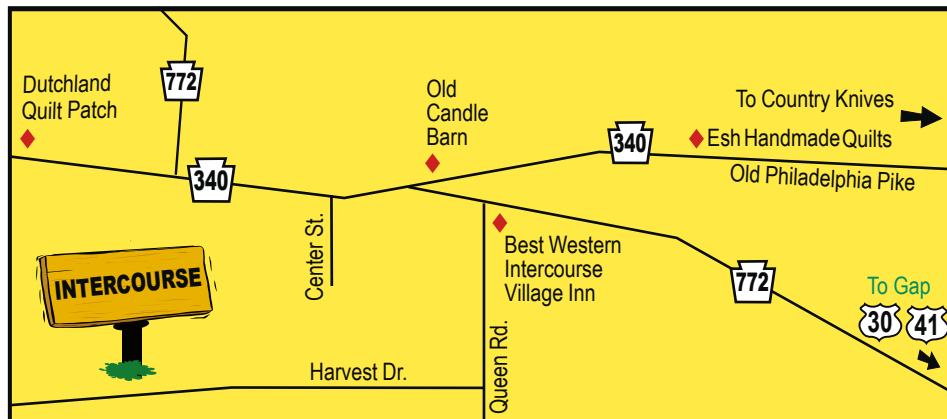
Open 7 Days • Call Ahead Seating & Walk-ins Welcome

717.431.8400 • www.SmokehouseBBQandBrews.com

Smokehouse BBQ & Brews at Plain & Fancy Farm

3121 Old Philadelphia Pike (Rt 340) Bird-in-Hand PA GPS issue: try Ronks PA

Welcome to Intercourse, PA



Perhaps no other town in the entire country can claim its fame on just one simple thing... its name. Harrison Ford drove a buggy past the road sign on a memorable visit in the Hollywood blockbuster hit "Witness." For years people have postmarked "Intercourse" on envelopes, and the jokes from visitors who travel through Bird-in-Hand to Intercourse are endless. There are several theories for the name.

Around 1730, the Old Provincial Highway (now RT. 340) was laid out to connect Philadelphia with Lancaster. Conestoga wagons hauled freight back and forth between the two cities. Providing rest for travelers and horses,

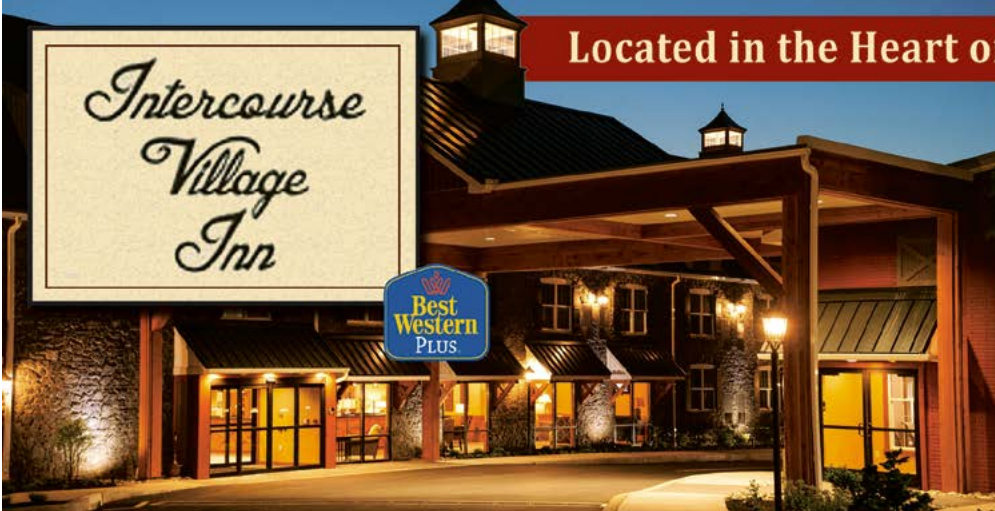
taverns sprouted along the way, becoming centers for news, gossip, and commerce. The construction of a log tavern in 1754 at the intersection of Newport Road and the Highway took "Cross Keys" as its name.

It remained such until 1814, when the name was changed to Intercourse as part of a failed real estate scheme of a Mr. George Brungard, who had acquired 48 acres of nearby land and attempted to lay out a town site and divide it into sections for sale by a lottery, advertising "151 handsome building lots of \$250 each to be drawn for by number." Renaming the town made sense, as intercourse had a common usage

referring to the pleasant mutual fellowship and frequent intermingling which were so common in the informal atmosphere of the quiet country village. Over time, Brungard's scheme begat others. As recently as 1971, an enterprising soul tried to take advantage of the town's name by selling deeds for one-inch square plots of Intercourse to visitors. Creative, but nonetheless a failure. By 1880, Intercourse had a population of 280 with a post office that actually moved among stores or restaurants as owners hoped visits by residents would increase their business.

The local stagecoach service started around 1898 as "a single horse conveyance similar to a market wagon, with a roll-up curtain and double set of seats." When the stagecoach driver knew of passengers beforehand, their comfort on cold days was added to with the placement of hot bricks heated in the oven, and wrapped in newspaper to preserve their warmth.

As the days of the dirt road drew to a close, so too did the stagecoach era. In 1923 a transit company was organized and bus service initiated to and from Lancaster. While "many of the Amish residents of the area were eager to see the line started, they did not want to invest in stock of the Company. Instead they bought books of tickets which were really prepaid bus fares." Walking the streets of this tiny hamlet is an absolute must-visit for everyone. 



Located in the Heart of Intercourse Village

- Spectacular Newly Renovated Rooms
- Delicious PA Dutch Dining
- On-Site Day Spa
- Friendly, Knowledgeable Local Staff
- Sparkling Indoor Pool
- Meticulously Clean and Welcoming

Experience Heritage & Hospitality at Our Own





Enjoy breakfast, lunch, or dinner located exactly where the town's original 1908 steam-powered mill stood. Capture the history, heritage, and hospitality that have been a part of this town for more than 250 years and share a meal with loved ones.



\$1 off
BREAKFAST or
\$2 off
LUNCH or DINNER

Valid up to four people in the same party. May not be combined with other offers. Expires 12/30/17.

800.717.6202 • intercoursevillageinn.com • 3610 E. Newport Rd. Intercourse, PA 17534

Gish's Awesome Amish Furniture

By Clinton Martin



Storage is a necessity of life, but at Gish's Furniture there are various gorgeous, solid-wood, Amish-made furniture items that make storage a beautiful part of your home.

You've arrived in Amish Country. You're looking forward to experiencing Amish and Mennonite culture, and wouldn't mind taking a look at some of the high-quality, durable goods the PA Dutch are famous for.

Gish's Furniture needs to be on your must-visit itinerary. Gish's gathers together the best of Amish and Mennonite furniture craft and workmanship. Each Gish's location is a window into the nuanced style of Amish furniture, and on-site local expert designers can guide you on how best to match fine Amish furnishings to any style of home.

Each Gish's consultant will take you through a proprietary step-by-step process to identify

the exact pieces of furniture that best suit your interests:

Style — Choices include modern, traditional, and transitional.

Color — Whether through color stain, fabric, or leather, they help you select colors that brilliantly reflect you and your family.

Accents — Using their creative lens, they find accent pieces to enhance your vision.

Texture — From woods, fabrics, leather, metal or glass, they discover what's right for you.

Space — By taking accurate measurements, they make an impact or create a mood.

Budget — Tracking to your budget, they accomplish your dreams in ways that make sense for your pocketbook.

Gish's Furniture can be researched online at www.gishs.com, but there are also three convenient retail locations to visit in person:

The Lancaster Store — 2191 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster PA 17602 (866.925.4474)

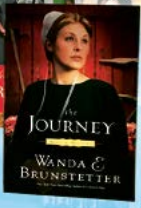
The Camp Hill Store — 3424 Simpson Ferry Road, Camp Hill PA 17011 (855.291.4474)

The Maryland Store — 11021 York Road, Cockeysville MD 21030 (410.891.8117)

Visiting Amish Country is enjoyable for so many reasons, and certainly building a living space around quality solid wood furniture will create bonus reminders of your experience every day. If adding furniture is even remotely in your future, you owe it to yourself to check out Gish's. 

GORDONVILLE BOOK STORE

- Books
- Cards & Gifts
- Stamps
- Toys
- Scrapbooking Supplies

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 275 Old Leacock Rd. Gordonville, PA 17529
 Open Monday-Saturday Closed Sunday

❖ Our Shop is Nestled Between Our House and Barn. ❖




Come See Our Quilts on Our 4th Generation Dairy Farm

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- Authentic Quilts and Crafts
- One Mile East of Kitchen Kettle and Intercourse
- Family Owned Since 1980 and Striving for Excellence

Monday-Saturday 9am-6pm — 717.768.8435

3829 Old Philadelphia Pike, Gordonville, PA 17529

❖ Just 1 Mile East of Intercourse on Route 340. ❖

The Old Candle Barn

3551 Old Philadelphia Pike
Intercourse, PA

Visit us Mon.-Sat.
8am-5pm
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www.oldercandlebarn.com




“Blow Out the Lights and Turn on the Candles”

Stop in and explore our barn just filled to the rafters with country furnishings that will turn your house into a home. Browse through our collection of:

★ Pottery ★ Homespun Goods ★ Braided Rugs ★ Our Own Blended Potpourri with Matching Oils
 ★ Curtains & Linens ★ Upholstered Furniture ★ Window Lights & Bulbs ★ Lots of Deliciously Scented Candles



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AWARD-WINNING WINES
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NOW WITH TWO LOCATIONS IN LANCASTER COUNTY!



MOUNT HOPE WINE GALLERY & CRAFT BREWERY

Nestled between Bird-In-Hand and Intercourse
Route 340 • 3174 Old Philadelphia Pike
717-768-7194 • Lancaster-Gallery.com

Featuring Two Great Tastes!

The first floor Wine Gallery features daily complimentary tastings of Mount Hope Wines by our informative staff. Shop the Gallery's extensive selection of wine accessories, kitchenware, gourmet food items and more!

On the second floor, enjoy Rumspringa beers and Lancaster County Ciders on draft and take-home bottles and growlers, Mount Hope Wines by the glass and pub grub at the Barn Café.

WINERY AT MILLER'S SMORGASBORD

2815 Lincoln Highway East. Ronks, PA 17572 | 717-288-2464

Complimentary Samplings Available Daily!

Mount Hope Winery is excited to introduce its hand crafted products to both natives and visiting tourists to this new location and looks forward to continuing the traditions, creativity and craftsmanship that is the cornerstone of Lancaster County with its wines and ciders.



Available On-Draft & To-Go At Both Locations.
Visit LancasterCountyCider.com for more area locations.



NEW WINES

Featuring the Intercourse Series!

Paying homage to the area where we live and work! Includes Becky's Blush, Quilter's Delight, Jacob's Choice, Courtship Rose and Heartland Harvest!



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*Wine shipping available to residents of PA ONLY!

August 2017 Events Listings



Through 8/12

Peter Pan

8/17 - 9/23

Pippin

Dutch Apple Dinner Theater
717.898.1900

Through 8/12

Buying the Moose

8/19 - 11/4

Sex Please, We're Sixty
Rainbow's Comedy Playhouse
800.292.4301

Through 9/4

Patriotic American Magic Lantern Show

Plain & Fancy Theater
717.768.8400 ext 213

Through 10/28

Mennonite Girls Can Cook

Bird In Hand Stage
800.790.4069

August 4, 11, 18, 25

All Aboard Date Night Tour

Strasburg Scooters
717.344.2488

August (Each Sat & Sun)

Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire

Mount Hope Estate & Winery
717.665.7021

August 16-19

Annual Thresherman's Festival

Rough & Tumble Museum
717-442-4249

September 2-4

Hospice Benefit Auction

Solanco Fair Grounds
717-295-3900



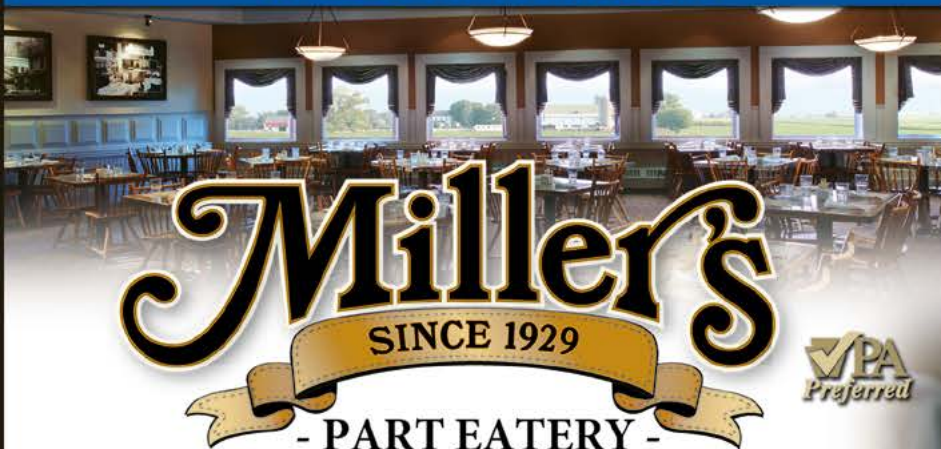
Discover Lancaster Visitor's Center
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Mr. Sticky's Regular
Walnut Sticky
Peanut Butter Icing
Cream Cheese Icing

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SINCE 1929



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In 1929, Anna Miller served Chicken & Waffles to truckers as her husband repaired their rigs. She served good food, in a kindly manner. And for 88 years, we've strived to do the same.

Three dining options...

- 1) Menu dining, starting at \$8.99
- 2) Soup, Salad & Bread Smorgasbord
- 3) Lancaster's Original, Traditional Smorgasbord

- Reservations, Call Ahead Seating & Walk-ins Welcome
- 717-687-6621 • Get the whole story at www.Millers1929.com
- Route 30 two miles east of Rt 896 GPS: 2811 Lincoln Highway East, Ronks

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Reader's Choice Award Winner • PaPreferred • PA ServSafe Award Winner
Wine, Beer & Spirits available • Lunch & Dinner served 7 days, from 11:30am
Breakfast served on Saturdays & Sundays only, from 7:30am
Quilt, Bakery & Specialty Shops • * Menus-hours-prices may vary



\$3 Off our Traditional Smorgasbord Dinner

Valid for up to six adults selecting our *Traditional Smorgasbord Dinner*, served 7 days from 11:30am. Not valid Saturdays after 4pm. Not valid Easter, Mother's Day, Thanksgiving, with any other offer, special or group rate. Not valid on ala carte menu or toward Soup & Salad Smorgasbord. Expires 10/31/17. **PLU 505**

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The Magic of the Lantern at Plain & Fancy Farm



Special to AMISH COUNTRY NEWS

Magic Lantern performances, although foreign to modern day audiences, were the most popular form of entertainment in America in the late 1800s, before there were movies. Using a gorgeous wood and brass antique lantern, the performers or "Showmen" would take their audiences on a journey unlike anything they had experienced before.

Weaving tales of drama, mystery and comedy, these Showmen projected remarkably detailed hand-painted images on screens measuring as tall as two stories. Indeed, a show's success depended upon the Showman's ability to capture the attention and the imagination of his audience, as he deftly manipulated oversized glass slides in and out of lanterns possessing one, two, or in rare cases, even three sets of lenses from which special effects could be created to enhance the illusion of the Showman's story.

In the grandest traditions of these Magic Lanternists, Mark Sullivan, resident Showman and Artistic Director at the Plain & Fancy Theater, RT 340, east of Lancaster between Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse, brings decades of theatrical experience to his role as "Professor Phineas T. Firefly." Mark's resume includes extensive credits as a comic actor, writer and director. He has performed at Disney World, created and directed the "Congo Comedy Corps" at Busch Gardens in Tampa, in addition to his time most recently spent at the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire where he served as artistic director. Mark likes to tell his audience members that if he can't make them laugh, they better check their pulse!

The Magic Lantern season runs through Labor Day with Sullivan's lively interpretation of the Patriotic Show, "This Is My Country," which traces the history of the United States from its early beginnings through the 19th century. The tale is told through the eyes of seven generations of the Sullivan family, whose images are among the over 100 that appear to highlight and transition theater goes from the landing at Plymouth Rock to the emotional revelation of two brothers on opposite sides of the Civil War.

The Theater is fortunate to actually own two magnificent lanterns dating back to the 1800s, known as triunials, for the three separate and distinct lenses available to the Showman in performance. Both lanterns were made in England and are believed to be two of the fewer than 100 such lanterns in existence today worldwide, of which only 40 are operational.

Integral to the telling of "This Is My Country" is the soundtrack created for the show, which is comprised of both original pieces and period



favorites, including "Pineapple Rag" and "Lincoln and Liberty."

This musical feast was even nominated for a Grammy Award. The Showman's animated performance, a fascinating story to which so many can readily relate, the unusual musical soundtrack which seamlessly fits the show, and surprising special effects all combine to captivate audiences today, just as they did decades ago.

The Patriotic Show runs until September 4th, Tuesdays through Saturdays with evening performances at 7 P.M. Tickets are available online at MagicLanternTheater.com and by phone at 717.768.8400 Ext. 213.

Dinner and show combination tickets are available online and include the build your own plated feast at Plain & Fancy Restaurant, GPS destination address for the Theater is 3121 Old Philadelphia Pike, Ronks, PA, 17572.



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Making the Rounds --- Discovering Local Quilt Shops

By Brad Igou



Zook's Pies is now famous for sweet apple dumplings in addition to savory meat pies. Call 717.768.0239.

Quite a few years ago, a Japanese man and his translator came to Lancaster. He was on a trip to buy quilts for his store in Tokyo. I was "hired" to take him around, since I had lived in Japan for eight years.

We would walk into a little quilt shop. He would stroll about examining the many quilts, seemingly disinterested. Then he would suddenly stop and point, "I want that one, this one, that one, that one, and this one." The shocked Amish owner of the shop suddenly had a sale of five or six quilts to one buyer for several thousand dollars!

All across Amish Country there are places that offer a large and varied selection, such as **Dutchland Quilt Patch** on Route 30 and in Intercourse (717.768.3981, dutchlandquilts.com). Or you can visit some of the little Amish shops, often in someone's home, that dot the countryside, such as **Esh Handmade Quilts** (717.768.8435) east of Intercourse, or **J&B Quilts** (717.327.0707) in the countryside northeast of Strasburg.

So let's visit a few shops and talk to their owners...

Tulips, irises and peonies blossom on one of Emma Witmer's quilt designs, "Flowers From My Garden." Each year these beautiful flowers bloom at the same time and they inspired her stunning original pattern. Twining feather-quilting graces the outside edge of the quilt with a feather spray on each corner, and elegant lines radiate from the center flowers to fill the white space of the quilt.

The flowers are appliquéd to the quilt. (The word "appliqué" comes from the French, and literally means "pattern applied.") Appliquing on a quilt gives an added dimension, as does a special technique called "ruching," which gives the peony petals their texture. Finally, a chain stitch

in colored thread entwines with the outer flowers to encircle the center bouquet.

"Flowers From My Garden" is just one of many original, traditional, and antique quilts Emma has available. Colors or sizes in any pattern can be custom made, and Emma has over 100 queen size quilts in stock. She's been in this business for nearly 50 years! **Witmer's Quilt Shop** (717.656.9526) is located at 1076 West Main Street, New Holland, PA 17557, on Route 23.

In the world of quilting, the "Dahlia Log Cabin" pattern is truly a hybrid. The design was created by mixing the patterns for a "Dahlia" and a "Log Cabin" quilt, combining the elements of each for a wholly new design.

Susie Riehl, whose quilt and crafts shop will be discovered on one of the most picturesque Amish farms you'll find anywhere, says that "Dahlia Log Cabin" quilts are one of her best sellers because it is a combination of two beautiful patterns.

With the cones on the edging, the quilt is colorful to the very edge, not just white, and does not show dirt as easily as other patterns. It takes 4-5 weeks to complete the pieced, patchwork quilt, and all of the patchwork is done on a sewing machine with the quilting then completed by hand.

Susie started in the business back in 1993, when two of her daughters sat along the road selling potholders. Susie's mother had a quilt shop in her home, so the Riehls thought perhaps they could sell some quilts as well. They put some quilts on a bed in their bedroom, told some local tour guides about their new shop, and visitors have been coming down the lane to their farm ever since! The showroom expanded from one room to a large, uniquely built shop nestled between their house and barn.

Other popular quilt patterns at Riehl's include Country Love, Wedding Ring, Heirloom and Penn Dutch Sampler. Visitors can also pop in the barn to check on the cows and other farm animals. **Riehl's Quilts & Crafts** (717.656.0697) is located at 247 E. Eby Road, Leola (RiehlsQuiltsAndCrafts.com).

In the world of quilting, a fairly "new" design is the pieced patchwork "Star Spin" pattern quilt. And, while Rachel Smucker admits there's an awful lot of quilting, that's just what makes the "Star Spin" a beautiful finishing touch for any bed (or wall, for that matter).

Another similar eye-catching popular pattern, "Hershey Star," likewise contains a great deal of quilting with much intricate stitching to fill the open white spaces.

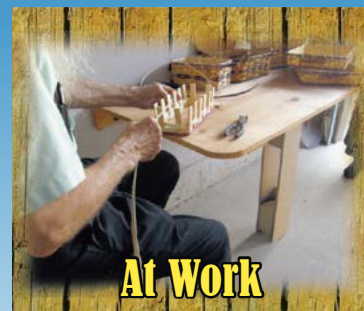
Continued on Page 26

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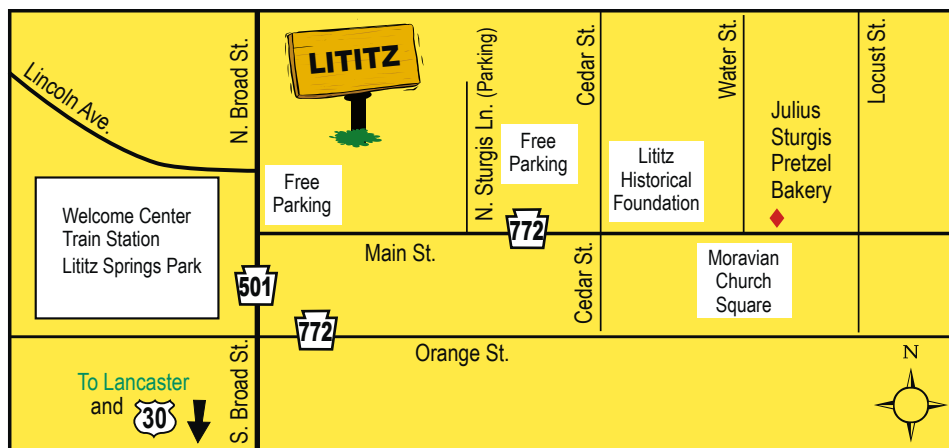
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Historic Lititz...A Hometown Treasure



There's no place quite like Lititz, and visitors should plan time there while in Amish Country. The Lititz story is tied to that of the Moravian faith in Bohemia. As was the case with other persecuted religious groups in Europe, many Moravians sought freedom in the New World, arriving in the early 1700's, with settlements in Pennsylvania and North Carolina. In 1755 the town actually took the name Lititz, the German spelling for Lidice, where European reformers had taken refuge in the 15th century.

Music and education were important to the Moravians. In fact, the Lititz schoolhouse erected in 1746 marked the beginnings of what was to be Linden Hall, the oldest continuously operating residence school for girls in the United States.

For one hundred years, Moravian church members were the only people permitted to live in the town. It was not until 1855 that non-Moravians were allowed to own their own homes. The complex of buildings comprising

the Moravian congregation is well worth seeing, particularly the church built in 1787.

One name is linked forever with the history of Lititz—Julius Sturgis. He opened the first commercial pretzel bakery in the New World



in Lititz. The year was 1861, and the site at 219 East Main Street is on the National Register of Historic Places. A tour of the bakery, still in operation, is unlike any other and well worth your time. 🐷

Discovering Local Quilts (Cont'd from Page 25)

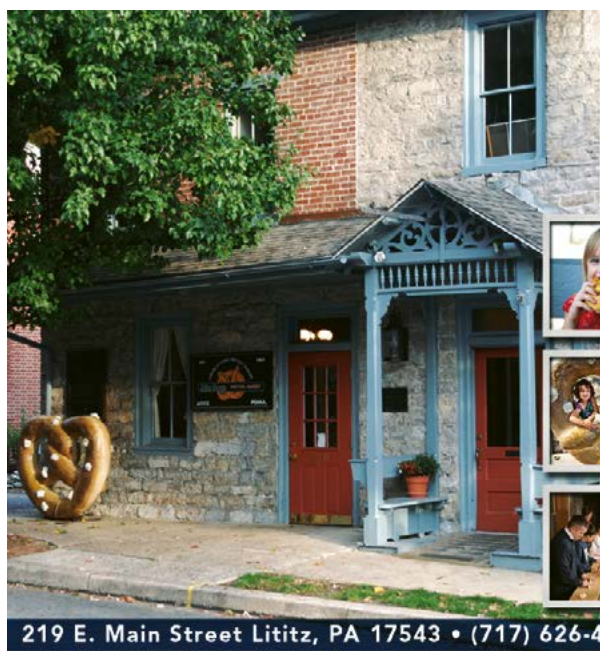
Rachel alone chooses the colors and orders the fabrics for the quilts in her shop. While some women may be good quilters, not everyone has that “color sense” and can envision the perfect combinations for the finished product. The quilting is then done by one of over 40 local Amish and Mennonite ladies who work in their homes. Rachel refers to the production of the quilts as “a sharing thing” and is happy that “quilting gives a lot of ladies jobs.”

Rachel's shop is right on the family farm, down a long lane, and is filled with king, queen and twin sized quilts, as well as other

quilted and handcrafted items. And, you can order a special request quilt, but expect to wait 4-6 months since the production of a quilt is obviously very time consuming!

Smucker's Quilts (717.656.8730) is located just off Rt. 23 at 117 North Groffdale Road, west of New Holland.

Truly, Amish Country is the treasure trove of quilt finds. Take an extra breath before entering these quilt shop “finds,” because the amazing colors and designs you come upon are likely to “take your breath away!” 🐷



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Gettysburg – A Divided Country’s Turning Point

by Brad Igou

We could probably make a strong argument that when people think of Pennsylvania, they primarily think of four destinations, all just a short drive from Amish Country. The other three are, of course, Philadelphia, Hershey, and Gettysburg.

Readers will immediately identify nearby Gettysburg with the Civil War. Here are a few quick facts. Between July 1-3, 1863, Maj. Gen. George Meade’s Union Army defeated attacks by Gen. Robert E. Lee’s Confederate Army, ending Lee’s attempt to invade the North. Often described as the turning point in the war, this was the bloodiest battle, with the largest number of casualties. Not long after the battle, President Lincoln came to the cemetery to give what is arguably the most famous American speech, the Gettysburg Address.

Today, visitors are fortunate to have so many excellent resources available to really gain an in-depth understanding of those fateful days, and see where those events actually took place, as they walk this “Hallowed Ground.”



The place to begin is the Gettysburg Museum and Visitor Center. Gone are the days of the “Electric Map” and the somewhat musty displays. Now this spectacular center houses a

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state-of-the-art museum with fascinating artifacts, interactive displays, and information not only about the big events, but also the many individual stories of those involved in the struggle.

Then a film narrated by Morgan Freeman sets the stage for viewing the truly amazing Cyclorama, a 360-degree painting of Pickett’s Charge that was completed a few years after the battle itself. Recently restored and preserved, this 4-story high, longer-than-a-football-field mural places you in the center of the battle.

Armed with this historical background, you are now ready for a tour of the battlefield itself, and there are various options, from having a licensed guide, to driving around on your own, to taking a bus tour. There is a very reasonably priced option that includes the museum, cyclorama, and bus tour in a combination ticket.

But just as Lancaster is much more than just Amish Country, Gettysburg offers a variety

of attractions beyond the battlefield. The town square is delightful, with many other historic buildings, lodging, shops, theater, and restaurants, all good spots to unwind after a day of sightseeing. You might even want to do a Ghost Tour in the evening.



Many visitors are not familiar with the nearby Eisenhower National Historic Site, the home and farm of General and President Dwight D. Eisenhower. This was his weekend retreat and a meeting place for world leaders, a much needed respite from Washington, and a backdrop for efforts to reduce Cold War tensions.

You’ll want to plan some time for other pursuits, whether that be outlet shopping, visiting wineries, or various outdoor activities. And you may want to check out some of the events you might not associate with Gettysburg --- a beer festival, bike week, apple harvest festival, and even Gettysburg Rocks.

So be sure to plan a visit to Gettysburg and make this small Pennsylvania town that changed the course of history a part of your vacation battle plan.

Photos courtesy of Destination Gettysburg.



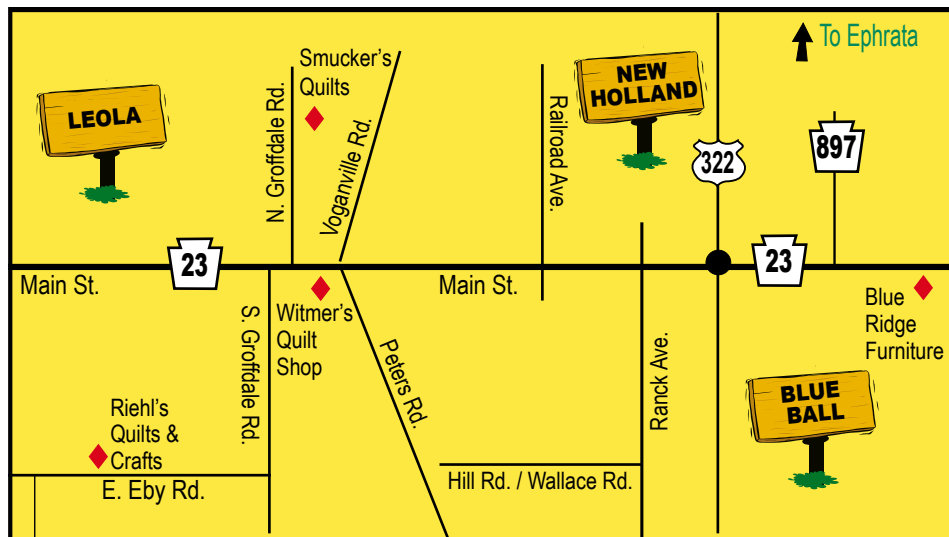
Calling All Photographers!

2017 Amish Country News Photo Contest

To enter, send 8x10 photos at high resolution (300 dpi) and in .jpg format to: editor@amishnews.com Put “2017 photo contest” in subject line. Deadline 12/31/17.

Photos become property of Amish Country News/Amish Experience and may be used in upcoming issues, publications, and/or other promotions. Photos should depict scenes, aspects, events, or activities typical to Lancaster or the Pennsylvania Dutch Country region. We accept photos via email, and request no more than 10 photos by the same person be submitted. File names should contain your name. In the email include your name, address, and phone number. Details on location, date, or subject matter of the photograph should also be included.

Welcome to New Holland • Blue Ball



The instability in Europe in the late 1600's spawned and nurtured the pioneer interest in the deep forest lands of Pennsylvania. In 1681 William Penn received his 40,000 square-mile land grant to settle King Charles' debt to his father. Himself a Quaker, Penn had experienced religious persecution firsthand, and decided to establish his American colony based on complete religious freedom.

This entire century had been one of continued misery for the peasants of the Palatinate (western Germany). The Thirty Years War had raged across the area with barbaric ruthlessness. The peasant inhabitants fled to nearby Holland for refuge. And within a decade of the end of that conflict, King Louis XIV of France started a new religious war in the same general area. These Palatinate peasants were exhausted by

war's desolation, and were ripe for a new start. Traveling land agents for William Penn's new colony found listening ears. In addition to religious freedom and a peaceful existence, Penn offered cheap land. The stated price was 100 English pounds for 5,000 acres.

By 1728, William Penn had been dead for 10 years and his American colony, called Pennsylvania, was being administered by a proprietary governor while the sale of land was formalized by patent deeds.

In 1802, when a post office was established and an official name was necessary, there was no objection to naming the town New Holland. These grateful people remembered how extremely kind the inhabitants of Holland were to them, and the assistance that included funds to cover the cost of the refugee German immigrants' ocean voyage.

This was no small matter when the alternative was indentured service for a period of years. For adults, indenture frequently meant four to seven years of labor without pay. Minors served until their 21st birthday. But still, William Penn's Quaker Pennsylvania was liberation compared to the Europe they fled seeking freedom of religion, assembly and speech for all, hopefully, none of which we take for granted today.

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A Store with a Story... Country Housewares

By Clinton Martin



An Amish farm along Musser School Road near the town of Leola, in the midst of the Amish Countryside, is not unlike most farms in this area. The fields are planted neatly with rows of corn, the barn houses a small dairy operation, and there is a bustling machine shop in the former tobacco shed providing necessary secondary income to the agricultural endeavors. Where the similarities end, the story of the Country Housewares Store begins...

There was a life-altering accident at the farm. Reuben Beiler, when he was about 20 years old, was left permanently paralyzed. That was 45 years ago, but Reuben was able to help with the family farm all those years by starting and keeping a retail store.

Thus was the beginning of the Country Housewares Store, which started out as a lean-to affixed to the side of the farmhouse. Reuben sold general-store items, focusing on products and supplies most often needed by neighboring farmsteads.

The business flourished, and Reuben expanded his store numerous times over the years, finally building a proper stand-alone store in 2000. A few years after that, he realized it was time to hand the reigns of the store over to the next generation.

Today, Michael Fisher is responsible for the daily operation of the popular shopping outlet for many Amish, Mennonite, and "English" customers alike. The merchandise range includes kitchen goods, toys, books, furniture, lamps, fine china, silverware chests, and a beautiful line of musical clocks. It definitely leans towards the

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I've heard the store called an "Amish department store," which is rather fitting. So it isn't uncommon to be surprised to find an item you were sure was no longer available, or even "score" a bargain on a new "old" item.

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Smucker's Quilts a Handmade Amish Gem Worth Finding

By Clinton Martin

Many visitors travel Routes 340, 772, 322, and 23 to move around between the funny-named villages in Amish Country. What the savviest visitors know is that one of the area's first, and still one of the finest, quilt shops is located right in the middle, yet off the beaten path, of this beautiful area. Smucker's Quilts is just north of Route 23 on Groffdale Road, a winding back road that passes by Amish farms near the towns of Leola and New Holland.

Smucker's Quilts not only sells quilts, but there are often a few "in the making" right in the shop, so visitors can peruse finished quilts, while observing how the intricate quilt pieces are created. Rachel Smucker is a great quilt host, offering explanations on designs and details, including actually demonstrating what and how a "quillow" works.



Smucker's Quilts often has some "in-progress" quilts on site so visitors can see the process.

The setting itself is beautiful and truly one-of-a-kind. You'll drive back a long lane and around the bend in front of an original Lancaster County "bank barn," to the stand-alone shop right on the farm. This is as authentic a place as you'll find to search out fine, locally hand-made quilts and crafts.

Lighting is provided by propane lamps, "air conditioning" by fans running off an air compressor, and the "parking lot" is a little macadam island surrounded by a sea of rolling Amish farmland.

For GPS directions, use 117 N. Groffdale Rd., New Holland PA. Call (717) 656-8730 for details. Credit cards are accepted.

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Amish Visit-in-Person Heritage Tour Schedule Expands

Special to AMISH COUNTRY NEWS

IT'S A FIRST RATE PROBLEM! That's what the management at the Amish Experience concluded when there were demands for a daytime version of its evening Amish Visit-in-Person Tour, a once-a-day excursion restricted to 14 guests per tour.

The "Amish v.i.p. Tour" provides an intimate, interactive experience directly with the Amish. Introduced experimentally in 2008 and greeted enthusiastically, the tour has continued to grow in demand and popularity. Some visitors actually take the tour multiple times so they can meet different Amish that might be included on any given tour night.

Limited to 14 people to assure a very special personal experience, the Monday through Saturday tour has been expanded to include two daytime offerings July through Labor Day. Departure times for the daytime tours are 10:30 and 2:30. The traditional twilight tours will continue as always at 5:00 and are currently running through the end of October.



The tour highlights three aspects of Amish life --- on the farm, at work, and at home --- all within the span of three hours.

The first stop is at an Amish farm at milking time, where an Amish dairyman explains how the cows are milked and the milk chilled in the bulk tank, all without electricity. He also shares other details of the daily chores involved with farming Amish-style.

The second stop highlights an Amish "cottage industry." Fewer than half the Amish in Lancaster County are farmers and most Amish

earn a living other than on the farm. A different "industry" is featured on each tour and may include a furniture maker, greenhouse, soap maker, harness shop, canning kitchen, basket weaver, mini-horse farm, or even a carriage maker, to name but a few. In some cases, there are demonstrations of the proprietor's craft.

The third v.i.p. stop is the simplest, and often the most meaningful. For the Amish, to "visit" is simply to sit and chat for a while in someone's home, and that's exactly what happens when the group pulls up the lane to an Amish homestead. Guests enter somewhat reluctantly and, while conversation with strangers may be hesitant at first, by the end of the time spent together it is often difficult to pull guests away. Some visitors have even become friends with their Amish hosts, exchanging Christmas cards, recipes, and letters.

The Amish Experience VIP Tour has received the Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence Award and is the only tour designated as an Official

Heritage Tour by Lancaster County, through its Planning Commission. The Commission administers a nationally acclaimed heritage program, which designates sites and even artisans as being authentic representations of aspects of local culture. Designation is through a rigorous process that includes interpretive and authenticity requirements, as well as being "visitor ready."

This tour is meeting real people, one-on-one, where they live and work. For the Amish, simplicity is often the key. And this tour is simply about people getting to know each other as they discover and learn to respect their differences. The stunning backdrop of the Amish farmlands is just icing on the cake.

Tours depart from the Amish Experience Theater at Plain & Fancy Farm, Route 340, between Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse. Prices are \$59.95 for adults and \$39.95 for children 6-16. The tour does not allow children under the age of six. Advance reservations are strongly recommended. Tickets may be purchased in advance at the Amish Experience Theater, or with Visa or MasterCard by phone 717.768.8400, Ext. 210, or online at www.amishexperience.com. 





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"Zomething Different" is Back

By Clinton Martin

If you remember the 1990's, you almost assuredly remember Zima. Coors Brewing Company created, and heavily marketed, this alternative to beer in 1993, and the clear malt beverage became something of a pop culture icon, especially among youth. The fact that Zima seemed most popular among those who weren't actually legally old enough to consume the product might be one reason why it quietly went away into the dust bin of Americana.



Officially ceasing production in America in 2008, Zima has been brought back by Coors for an undisclosed amount of time. Sam's Man Cave, famous for its iconic signs, steins, taps, tubs, and barware from decades of collecting and trading, is one of the only places where one can find NEW OLD STOCK of Zima accessories.

There's just no describing exactly what you might find at Sam's Man Cave. It is the ultimate treasure trove of breweriana on Route 30 across from Tanger Outlets (2207 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster). Call 717.394.6404, or visit SamsManCave.com.



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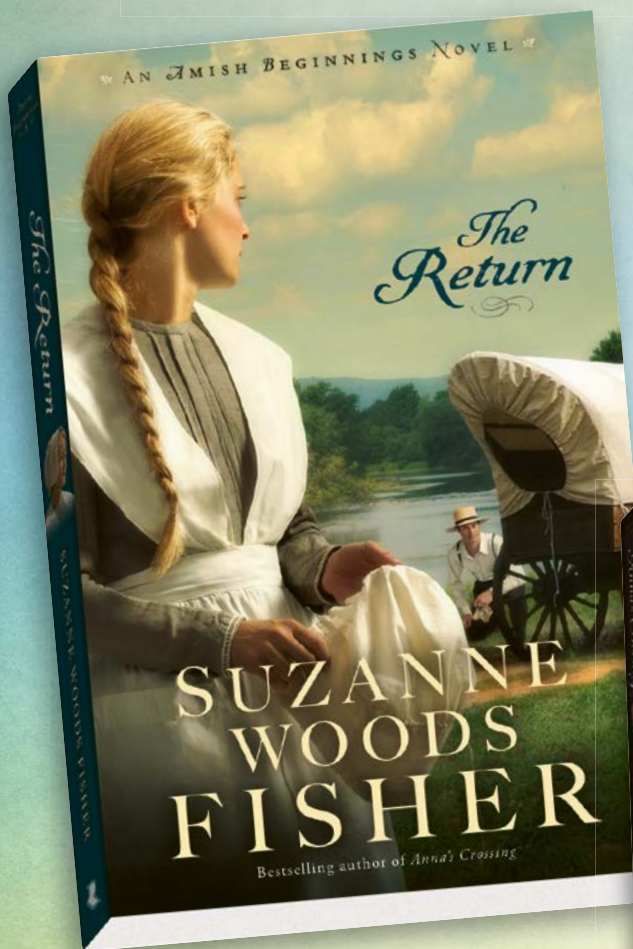
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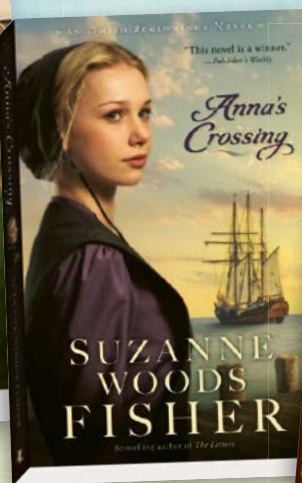
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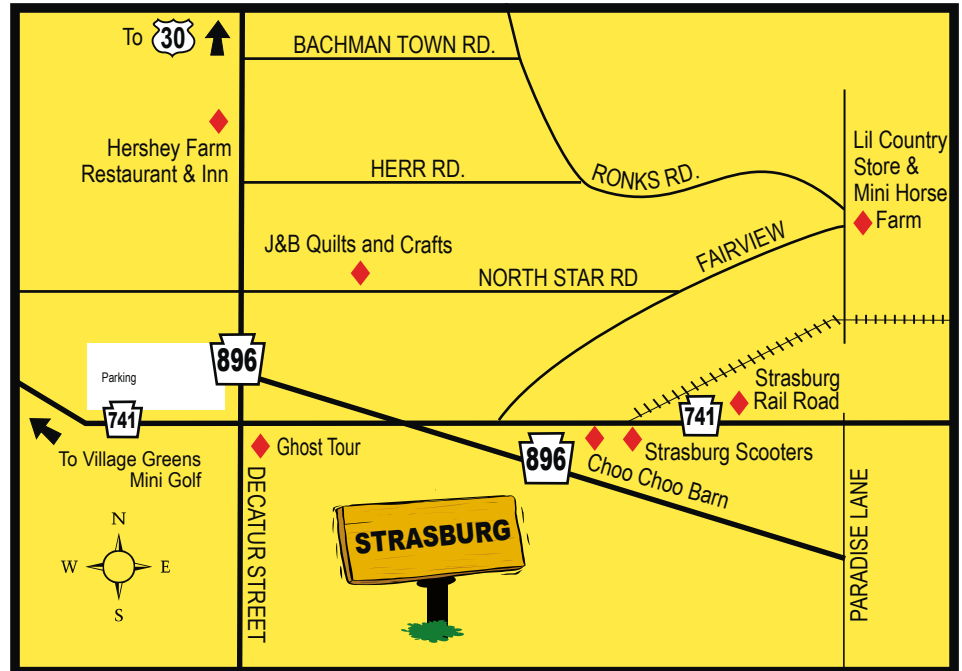
Strasburg – A Town of Trains & Heritage



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ALL ABOARD! Strasburg is a destination all its own in Dutch Country, home to many well known attractions. To name just a few --- the Strasburg Rail Road, Ghost Tours of Lancaster, National Toy Train Museum, and the Choo Choo Barn. But you may not know much about the interesting history of "Train Town." Strasburg, named for the city in France, was actually "founded" by a Frenchman, Pierre Bezaillon, who traded with the Delaware Indians. The story goes he came to the area in 1693, as French fur traders opened up the first path through this area from Philadelphia to the Susquehanna River.

As early as 1716, when the first wagon was used for hauling goods, the path became known



as the Conestoga Road, and the wagons that traveled them eventually became known as Conestoga Wagons. Main Street Strasburg was developed during the next half century as traffic

on this road increased considerably and the first log houses appeared in the village about 1733.

Strasburg continued to flourish in the 18th century primarily because of its location along

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the major wagon routes between Philadelphia, Lancaster, and the Susquehanna River. As Strasburg flourished, so did its neighbor to the east, Philadelphia. The commercial interests of Philadelphia pressured the State Legislature to improve the transportation network into their city. As a result, a series of canals along with the Philadelphia and Columbia Rail Roads were constructed. Strasburg residents became alarmed at the possibility of losing their commercial position and there soon emerged a charter for the Strasburg Rail Road to construct a rail line connecting Strasburg with the Philadelphia and Columbia Rail Road main line near Paradise. Finally in the 1850's, trains were hauling freight and passengers.

About 100 years later, business had dwindled, and a severe storm in 1957 destroyed much of the track. It seemed the srr had reached the end of the line. To the rescue came a group of local train enthusiasts who began bringing the SRR back to life in a totally new way. They added passenger cars and buildings, and today's Strasburg Rail Road was born, destined to become one of Dutch Country's top attractions.

Appropriately enough, the State decided to build an expanded Rail Road Museum of Pennsylvania across the street, the ideal place to preserve the history of railroading in Pennsylvania. With the other train attractions nearby, it's little wonder that Strasburg has earned the title of Train Town! 🚂

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The Summer of 2017: The Best Time For England of 1518

By Clinton Martin

Lancaster County, known internationally for the scenic beauty of its Amish farmlands is not all buggies and bonnets. Lancaster County is also home to the glorious Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire, a wondrous event full of 16th century mirth and enchantment in merrie olde England. This singularly unique celebration has been dazzling festival-goers for 37 years, and has rightfully been named One of the Top Ten Events in Pennsylvania.

The Faire

Repeat visitors (of which I'm one) call the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire simply "the Faire" for short, and there are endless reasons to visit over and over again. Each year, the festival day is guided loosely by a "Scenario." This is a plot, usually historically based, that connects some of the biggest of the over 90 shows daily into a story that patrons can follow. In 2017, the scenario is that of England coming of age on a global stage, mid-1500s Europe... *The year is 1518, and the young King Henry is working towards an extraordinary goal: peace across Europe. In the interests of furthering mutual prosperity, he has proposed a non-aggression pact between all European nations. But until now, England has been seen as a rather small player on the global stage, and many are wary of signing a treaty championed by an insignificant and rather backwards nation. Chief among these detractors is Maximilian, the German Kaiser of the Holy Roman Empire. Undaunted, Henry has invited Maximilian's ambassador to come to England and see its wonders for himself. And our King has returned to the site of his glorious coronation, the Shire of Mt. Hope, in order to show off the very best of what his country has to offer. Needless to say, the news has sent our good Lady Mayor of Mt. Hope into quite a state; after all, she's not exactly known for her calm handling of high pressure situations. With the aid of her newly appointed Master of Revels, who is wondering just what he's gotten himself into, she has turned the entire town into a beehive of frantic activity. From pirates to peasants, from wenches to rogues, the Shire's population has devoted itself to becoming the model of a more 'modern' European village. Will our fair Shire's festival day successfully dazzle the German ambassador? Will the good people of Mt. Hope truly show off the best of English Culture? It will certainly be entertaining to watch them try. And if all else fails, perhaps the visitors from Bavaria will appreciate the taste of stout English ale...*



While the scenario does afford visitors a guide to the day's entertainment, there are thoroughly entertaining shows and acts that pop up throughout the day, some of which are exclusively available only on certain theme weekends. Besides the famous jousting knights (real action, on real horses, in a real jousting arena) expect jugglers, magicians, fire-eaters, musical acts, Shakespearean plays, living history encampments, a royal falconer, commedia dell'arte shows, and even mud bog theater.

Theme Weekends

The Faire will be open 13 weekends in 2017. The castle gates swing wide August 5, and the Faire continues weekends plus Labor Day Monday through October 29. Each weekend

throughout the Faire season will showcase an exciting and unique theme that offers a different experience every time.

Aug. 5 & 6 - Children's Fantasy
Aug. 12 & 13 - World Carnival
Aug. 19 & 20 - Celtic Weekend
Aug. 26 & 27 - Myths & Legends.
Sept. 2, 3 & 4 - Heroes of the Realm
Sept. 9 & 10 - Wizarding Weekend
Sept. 16 & 17 - Pirate Invasion
Sept. 23 & 24 - Time Travelers
Sept. 30 & Oct. 1 - Oktoberfest
Oct. 7 & 8 - Autumn Harvest
Oct. 14 & 15, 21 & 22, 28 & 29 - Halloween Daze & Spooky Knights

Continued on Page 40





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For Plain People, Sunday is a day of rest. But, there are many things to do in Amish Country on Sundays. Plan ahead and save some of these attractions for your Sunday sight-seeing.

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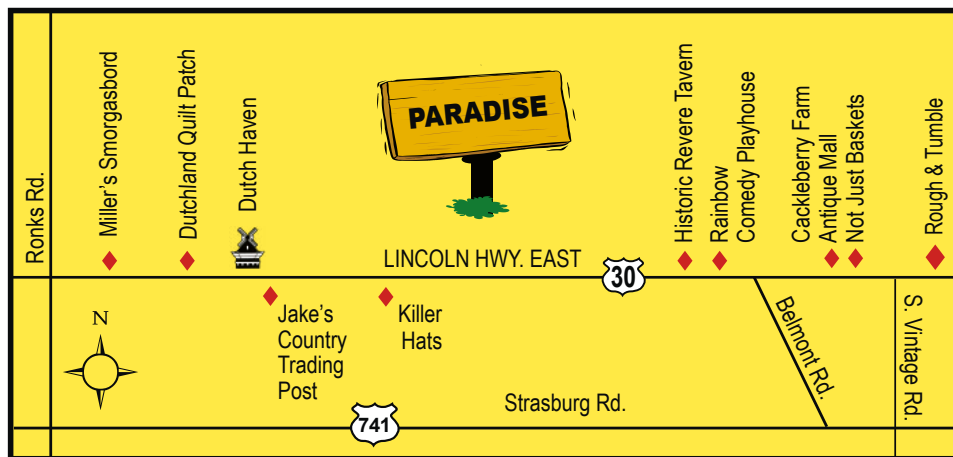
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as the area's first white people, living peaceably with local Indians.

The origins of Route 30, also known as "Lincoln Highway," date back to Lancaster's Colonial days when the frontier county needed a highway to connect it with the provincial capital of Philadelphia. The first road that was constructed is now Route 340, still referred to as the "Old Philadelphia Pike."

Soon, it was apparent that the Philadelphia Pike was insufficient to handle the increasing

traffic, and in 1790, a commission to survey a new route between Lancaster and Philadelphia was created. Since the cost of such a road was too much for the state to undertake, the company charged with building it was given the power to demand "reasonable" tolls from users. Investors received dividends earned from tolls collected along the gates of the turnpike. (As the toll was paid, the gate or "pike" was turned, hence the term "turnpike"). The "Lincoln Highway" (Route 30) opened in 1795 as the first long-distance, hard surfaced road in the country.

Taverns and stagecoach stops grew up along the turnpike for weary travelers. Of these, the Revere Tavern, dating back to 1740 and originally called the "Sign of the Spread Eagle," still proudly stands today. In 1841, the tavern became the residence of Reverend Edward V. Buchanan and his wife Eliza Foster Buchanan.

Eliza was the sister of Stephen Foster, whose immortal songs will always be a part of Americana. Foster not only penned music at the tavern, but sent many of his manuscripts to Eliza, also a talented musician, for her approval. On the banks of the Pequea Creek, Eliza and Stephen played many of Stephen's 200 songs, including "Way Down Upon the Swanee River" and "Oh! Susanna."

Wherever you happen to call "paradise," we hope you can see that a little bit of our own Paradise won't do you any harm! 

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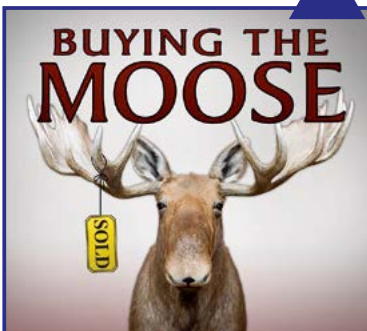
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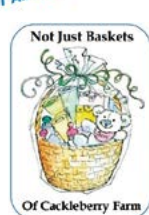
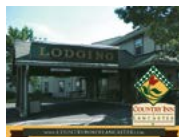
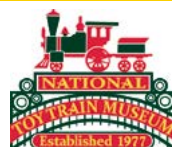
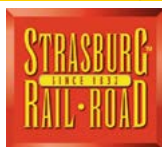
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Pennsylvania Renaissance Faïre (Continued from Page 36)

My family and I have visited during nearly every theme, except **Wizarding Weekend**, which is new for this year. **Children's Fantasy** offers wonderful (some free, some for a nominal charge) activities for the "nipperkins," as children are called at the Faïre. Storytelling with dress-up, games, crafts, tea with the queen, etc. are all memories I treasure with my children.

Celtic Weekend of course offers all the bagpipe, drums, dancing, and frivolity you can handle, including the men in kilts contest (who's got the best legs?), and the pub sing is a must-do.

Heroes of the Realm is an amazing weekend, where our Nation's servicemen and women are honored for their bravery and sacrifice. There's even a knighting ceremony on the grand Globe Stage – not a dry eye in the house.

Pyrate Invasion is as fun as it sounds, what with all the hard "Rrrrs" that you can fit into each sentence, fun contests like a real treasure hunt (complete with secret passwords you have to whisper on the human-sized chess match board), and a sword-swinging Pyrate School for the Nipperkins.

Time Travelers weekend is always a hoot because you get to take liberties with the time period, costumes, characters, shows, and acts that span a much broader, at times even sci-fi, atmosphere. It's great fun to see an Indiana Jones-dressed patron interacting with Renaissance knights while a Japanese Anime character munches on an authentic smoked turkey "legge" nearby.

My family never misses **Oktoberfest** because we love the flowing circular dancing by the local "liederkrantz," and the delicious foods and traditional lager beers featured during the two days that are as much Bavarian as they are PA Dutch.

And finally, we've enjoyed many visits to the **Autumn Harvest**. Where else can you actually stomp grapes, sample wines for free, and take advantage of a generous case discount on wines purchased? It's a celebration of all things Vine to Wine.

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As grand as the entertainment is, a visit to the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faïre just wouldn't be complete without sating the appetite for delicious food, expertly crafted beers, quality wines, and exquisite artisan wares. Situated throughout the grounds, various purveyors of food, drink, and merchandise add to the English Village atmosphere.

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The Amish in Their Own Words Vol. 2 - Part Four

by Brad Igou

“A Million Dollars”

Two young lads were complaining about their lot in life. Because they were from poor families, they could not have all the things that other boys had. Finally, the father of one of the boys came upon the scene and began to ask his son some questions.

“Would you take \$10,000 for your legs?” he asked. His son said no, for he needed his legs to run and jump. “Would you take \$10,000 for your arms?” Again the son refused.

The father then proceeded to ask about his eyes, his voice, his hearing, his sense of taste, and his health. Each time the son was not willing to part with them, even for a large sum of money.

Finally, at the end of the story, Dad figured out that his son was worth at least \$100,000! And the son realized how very rich he actually was. We are so used to measuring everything by money that perhaps this is the only way to get our message across.

My mind goes to people who have become dissatisfied with our Amish lifestyle and our way of applying Christian principles to everyday living. They usually degrade our strict standards and justify their change to a more liberal society, where there is more freedom of personal expression.

I have to wonder, are these values of ours not worth clinging to? Are they not worth preserving? I think they are. Should we attempt to place a money value on certain principles so we appreciate them more? Why don't we try it?

Amish do not divorce. Children grow up within the security of a family, knowing where they belong. What is this influence and stability worth to a child? Let's set a price on this at \$100,000. (Luke 16:18, I Corinthians 7:10)

The mothers are keepers of the home. They are with the families and take care of the children. The influence of a godly mother, who can measure it? Better set this at \$200,000. (II Timothy 1:5, Titus 2:4-5)

Our children are taught to stick to a job until it is done. This learning to work with our hands and the sweat of the face, what is it worth? Let's value this one at \$100,000. (I Thessalonians 4:11, II Thessalonians 3:10)

Amish children are used to being part of a large family. Thus, they learn much about companionship, sharing unselfishly, and getting along with others. Plus, look at all the things there are to do. Girls learn about cooking and

sewing, and working in the garden. Boys learn about shop work, the farm chores, and how to drive a team of horses. Growing up in this kind of environment, what is it worth? \$50,000? (I John 2:15, Psalm 104:24)

We are a bilingual people, which means we speak two languages. (Or is it trilingual--- Pennsylvania German, English, and High German?) We are used to it and perhaps take this privilege too much for granted.

For instance, a fourth grade Amish girl came home from school, and then went to the field to help husk corn. The children had read an interesting story that day. While they were husking corn, the girl told her father the whole story, but in a different language from the one in which she had read it.

Yet, strange as it may seem, most of the people who leave our Amish society for a more liberal one attach little value to knowing a second language, and they themselves or their descendants soon lose it. \$50,000. (Acts 21:40)

Our churches, separated from the world and made up of members who care for each other --- this is worth a great deal. \$200,000. (Hebrews 13:17, I Peter 3:3-5)

The young people are taught purity. They do not need to have memories of relationships with other partners to mar the beauty of their marriage. Let's set the value of this at \$100,000. (I Thessalonians 4:3-5, II Corinthians 6:15-20)

Our people are sensitive to each other's needs. It is touching to see how quickly neighbors gather to help when there has been a death or when a barn burns down. Surely this

Several years ago, I started working on a second volume of **THE AMISH IN THEIR OWN WORDS**, my book compiled from Amish writings in “Family Life” magazine. Since then, for many reasons, my project of producing “Volume 2” remains in limbo. Nevertheless, because I had begun to read and compile articles, I have decided to share some of them with you as my Amish Series for this year.

is something we don't want to lose. \$100,000. (Galatians 6:2, James 1:27)

The Amish care for their own older people instead of pushing them into nursing homes. Being kind to our grandparents in their sunset years can be a real blessing, both to them and to the rest of us. Knowing that our own children will take care of us, too, when we get old and helpless --- this is a comforting thought. \$50,000. (Leviticus 19:32, I Thessalonians 5:14, I Timothy 5:8)

We have now tried to list a few outstanding virtues and values. Undoubtedly our readers can think of many more. There might well be other groups who hold to these values as faithfully as we do. Perhaps more faithfully. We wish them God's blessings.

There may also be Amish communities where some of these values have been lost. This is sad. The important question for you and me is this --- Are we diligently striving, with God's help, to uphold these virtues? Or are we lax and unconcerned? (II Peter 1:5) 

Next Month:
Threats and the “Lost Inheritance”



Amish children start helping around the farm at an early age. (Photo credit: Walter San)

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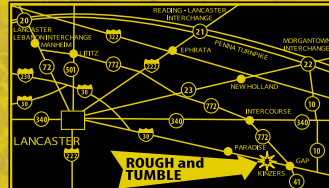
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To Hershey

To Hershey's Chocolate World

To Harrisburg

To York and Gettysburg

Mount Gretna

PA Turnpike

Brickerville

Lititz
Map Pg. 26

Manheim

Mount Joy

Marietta

Columbia

Wrightsville

Lancaster City

Willow Street

Hans Herr Drive

Susquehanna River

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AMISH COUNTRY



Adamstown

To Reading

To Philadelphia

Morgantown

Goodville

Blue Ball

New Holland

Ephrata

Akron

To Lititz

Brownstown

Leola

White Horse

Ronks

To Philadelphia

Gap

Christiana

Strasburg
(Map Pg. 34)

Paradise
(Map Pg. 38)

New Holland
& Blue Ball
(Map Pg. 28)

Intercourse
(Map Pg. 20)

Bird-in-Hand
(Map Pg. 10)

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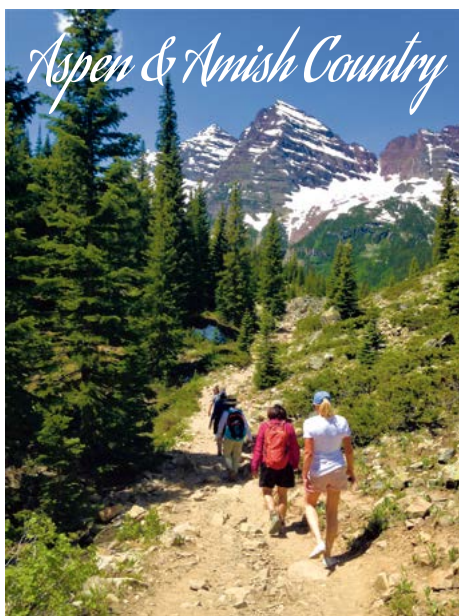
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Publisher's Message

By Brad Igou

At first glance, these two destinations would seem to be polar opposites. So what could they possibly have in common?

My recent summer visit to Aspen, the famous Colorado ski town, was a revelation of almost excessive beauty...seemingly endless spectacular vistas of the mountains, some still topped with snow, and lakes and waterfalls. Around every bend in the road was another amazing view. Glorious and inspiring.

Do the people who live there take it all for granted? Apparently not. There is a clear "outdoor spirit" instilled in locals and visitors, be it skiing in the winter or hiking and biking in the summer. They treasure and are intent on protecting what they have.

While Lancaster County's scenic farmlands are a far cry from Colorado's majestic Rocky Mountains, I have always enjoyed the views and culture that make Amish Country special. Our Farmland Preservation Trust works to preserve our farms and limit urban sprawl.

I am sure people in the Aspen area enjoy visiting other places, but are always happy to come home. I have lived abroad for quite a few years, and I actually wrote this message on a day-trip to New York City. Yet in my travels of years or days, I am always happy to return home. If anything, traveling helps us to better appreciate what we do have and are so fortunate to be surrounded by, and not to take it for granted.

Certainly where we are born is "the luck of the draw." I sometimes think about what life would have been like had I been born in Costa Rica, India, Japan, New York City, or on an Amish farm. No matter our birthplace, some of us leave our home, for a variety of reasons, in search of a better life elsewhere.

But we are all wired differently. Some of us love the beach, the mountains, the city, the countryside. Still, I'm guessing most of us, or at least those with the means, enjoy seeing different places, tasting foods that are not familiar, and meeting people with diverse cultures and traditions... all the while knowing we'll return to our home turf. We sometimes return saying, "It's a nice place to visit, but I wouldn't want to live there."

Hopefully, as we experience the "different," we also discover the "similar." I had to stretch to find similarities on my Aspen trip. The Plain culture of the Amish was far removed from the lifestyle of Aspen's rich and famous. Extravagant homes there are worth millions of dollars. But then some farmland here can be very pricey, at over \$10,000 per acre.

Both destinations have an influx of millions of visitors over the course of a year, although for wildly different activities. As already mentioned, hand-in-hand with tourism is the challenge to preserve what makes each place special, while still providing the activities and experiences visitors need and expect, so important to the local economy.

And while the shopping and dining options between these two places are at the extremes --- cannabis gummies vs. whoopie pies, quilts vs. designer jewelry --- visitors tend to enjoy what they can't always find at home, be that fine dining or home-cooking, snowboarding or milking a cow.

But what really turned my thoughts to Amish Country while I was in Aspen was seeing some Plain people, in their distinctive garb and speaking Pennsylvania Dutch, hiking the same trail on my way to the beautiful lakes and waterfalls of the magnificent "Maroon Bells" mountains.

That's one thing we can all share --- our appreciation for scenic wonders. In Aspen, I met or saw people from all over the USA and the world, from Hassidic Jews to Chinese, from Indians to French. And for those moments, all of our cultural, religious, and ethnic differences melted away in the midst of the majestic beauty around us.

As I gazed at some of the extravagant homes and prices, I was reminded of a quote by John F. Kennedy... "This country cannot afford to be materially rich and spiritually poor." In very different ways, Aspen and Amish Country put us in touch with the "spiritual."

I will never take for granted the wonders of the world around us, the diverse cultures, people, foods, and traditions waiting to be explored, both near and far.

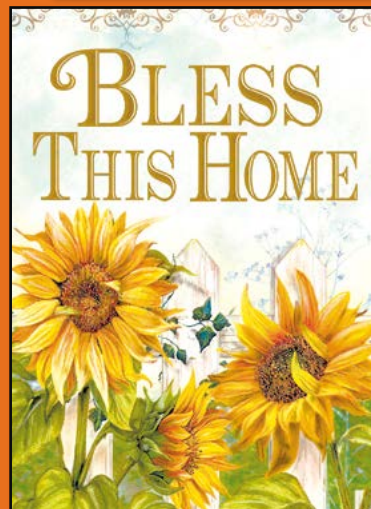
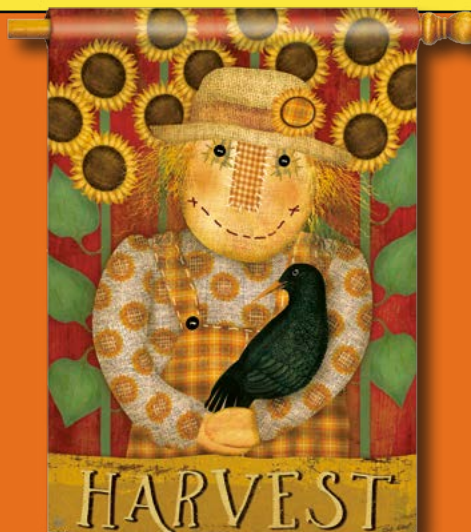
And so, I was blessed to experience a little of Aspen, just as I feel blessed to call Amish Country home. Whether you are visiting my home, or I yours, let's be sure to appreciate what both have to offer and enjoy. 



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